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GUY



Histoire — History
Guy — Ballater — Whitemud Creek




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GUY



Histoire — History
Guy — Ballater — Whitemud Creek



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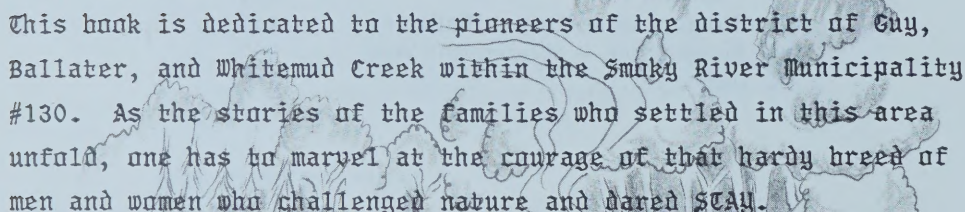
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"S'il y a quelque chose, dit la mère Chapdelaine, qui pourrait me consoler de rester si loin dans le bois, c'est de voir mes hommes faire un beau morceau de terrain... Un beau morceau de terre... Un beau morceau de terre qui a été plein de bois et de chicots et de racines et qu'on revoit une quinzaine après nu comme la main, prêt pour la charrue, je suis sûre qu'il ne peut rien y avoir au monde de plus beau et de plus aimable que ça..."

Louis Hémon : Maria Chapdelaine

Dedication



This book is dedicated to the pioneers of the district of Guy, Ballater, and Whitemud Creek within the Smoky River Municipality #130. As the stories of the families who settled in this area unfold, one has to marvel at the courage of that hardy breed of men and women who challenged nature and dared STAY.

A special tribute must be paid to the wives and mothers. Most of them not only toiled at their husband's side, they also accepted the solitude, the loneliness caused by their spouse's departure for the lumber camps soon after harvest. This became a way of life enabling the pioneer family to survive financially for another year.

May the older generation enjoy reminiscing as they read this book and may the younger one cherish the sacrifices their parents and grandparents endured to realize their dreams of a prosperous community.

BOOK COMMITTEE



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- all those who helped with the research for the first part of the book, and whose name appears with the article;
- Alberta Culture, New Horizon and the Smoky River M.D. # 130 for grants received;
- Société Généalogique et Historique de Smoky River, for information, photos and the computer work done;
- The Provincial Museum and Archives for the information they provided as well as the photographic reproductions which they allowed us to use;
- Phil Pitre for the work done in his Photo Studio;
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AVANT PROPOS

Cecile Aubin — President.



AVANT PROPOS

par Cécile AUBIN

Bien des idées viennent à l'esprit quand il s'agit de remplir le vide causé par la perte du cher compagnon de quarante années de vie conjugale. Préserver le passé devient tout à coup très important. Pourquoi ne pas compiler l'histoire de la région où l'on a vécu ensemble toutes ces années entourés de nos enfants et de nos amis?

Un sondage et l'encouragement de Mme Marie Beaupré, responsable de "Leurs rêves; nos mémoires; et de Mme Lucie St-André, responsable de "L'histoire de Girouxville", me donne l'élan nécessaire pour entreprendre un projet aussi formidable. D'abord le 14 avril 1986, trente-deux personnes considèrent ensemble les chances d'un tel projet. L'enthousiasme est là et un comité de cinq est formé ce même soir. Le 2 juin un comité de onze personnes d'âge d'or s'ajoute au premier groupe. Un peu plus tard M. Elphège Boulet et Mme Noëlla Fillion s'unissent à notre équipe. Assurés de subventions des gouvernements fédéral et provincial et de la coopé-

ration des gens de la région le projet est en pleine marche à l'automne. Je suis heureuse d'offrir ma maison comme lieu de rencontres et des sessions de travail. La vie reprend...

Vu les origines françaises de la paroisse de Guy, le comité a décidé dès le début que le livre sera bilingue. Cependant quelques mois plus tard à cause du trop grand nombre d'articles soumis et du coût élevé d'imprimerie, nous avons dû changer un peu notre format. Les histoires de famille seront donc imprimées dans la langue soumise suivie d'un résumé dans l'autre langue. Il a fallu faire exception pour la région de Whitemud Creek où la population est en grande majorité anglophone. Nous avons aussi voulu respecter le style de chaque auteur. Cependant la traduction a été faite par différentes personnes et voilà ce qui explique certaines variations dans les résumés.

Nous avons pris la liberté d'accepter quelques anglicismes employés couramment par les gens de la région: shack de log, bulldozer, township, filer, un homestead. Parmi les dictionnaires dont nous nous sommes servis, le dictionnaire nord-américain de la langue française de Béliste, édition 1986, nous a plu car il accepte les canadianismes de bon aloi; ce qui nous a rendu la tâche un peu plus facile.

Malgré le désir de n'omettre aucune famille ayant résidé au moins deux ans dans la région, il y a quelques manques; que ce soit par oubli de notre part ou de la famille elle-même, nous le regrettons.

Ma vive reconnaissance s'adresse aux membres de ces deux comités qui ont d'abord fait confiance au projet et qui ont travaillé sans compter les heures ni les déplacements: Mme Eva Johnson, ma voisine et mon bras droit, Mmes Gisèle Duguay, Françoise Dechief et Rita

Turcotte pour l'attention constante demandée au travail d'édition, M. Elphège Boulet qui a su nous guider et nous apporter le support moral dans nos moments de découragement, Mme Noëlla Fillion pour sa persévérance dans l'énorme travail de traduction et M. John Wawrzonek qui s'occupe des finances et nous a épargné les ennuis d'argent.

Sans l'initiative de Mme Marie Beaupré,

directrice de la Société Généalogique et Historique de Smoky River M.D. No 130, qui a suggéré de préparer nos articles sur l'ordinateur, notre projet n'aurait certes pu être complété en vingt mois.

L'histoire des familles, aidant à se mieux connaître, fera apprécier davantage chaque famille et sa contribution au développement de la région de Guy, Ballater et Whitemud.

FOREWORD



Eva Johnson — Vice-president.

Many ideas come to mind as one tries to fill the void caused by the loss to cancer of one's loving companion. Somehow in that state of loneliness preserving the past becomes very important. Why not then try to compile the history of the region where was spent all of our married life and where we raised our family?

A survey of how people felt towards such a project and the encouragement of Mrs. Marie Beaupré and Mrs. Lucy St. André who both had undertaken the writing of the histories of their own community made me feel confident enough to call a meeting of the local people to find out how much cooperation would be given. Thirty-two people responded and a Book Committee of five volunteers was formed that same night, April 14, 1986. Later, on June 2nd a New Horizon committee consisting of eleven members joined

the first group. Two talented people, Mr. Elphège Boulet and Mrs. Noëlla Fillion, also volunteered their help.

Assured of federal and provincial grants and of the cooperation of the community the project was in full swing by fall. I was most happy that my home became the group's working place. Life had meaning once more...

Because many of the pioneers were of French descent the committee planned to produce a bilingual book, but after the stories started coming in, it was soon realised that this ideal could not be fully met. The cost of printing so much material became prohibitive. Therefore it was decided to print the stories in the language submitted and to write a summary in the other language. Exception was made for the Whitemud Creek community where the majority of the residents are anglophones.

We have honestly tried to obtain every family's story but we are sorry there are omissions. This may be due to our forgetfulness or to those families' wishes not to be included.

I wish to express my most sincere thanks to the members of the committees who from the start have had enough confidence in the endeavour to contribute much time and effort for its success. It was a great pleasure to work with all of you. It is hoped that the compiling of the family stories will help everyone of us become more aware of the other families' contributions towards the continued development of the Guy, Ballater and Whitemud communities.

February 1987

Residents of the Hamlet of Guy:

CONGRATULATIONS! To all those involved in the creation of this history book of Guy. This book will act as a fitting tribute to past and present members of this fine community. I strongly endorse your efforts to help preserve our heritage.

As the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Constituency of Smoky River, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those involved in this worthy project.

Yours truly,



MARVIN E. MOORE,
M.L.A. - Smoky River



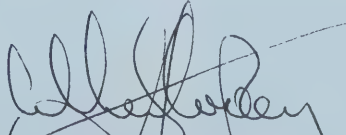
Marvin Moore.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I would like to congratulate the Guy Historical Committee on their efforts to document the history of the communities of Guy, Whitemud, and Baliter.

It is so important to take the time to compile historical events now before it becomes lost forever. Our ancestors put a great deal of themselves into pioneering the Peace Country, we owe it to them, to ourselves, and to future generations to publish the stories of their struggle.

Again, I congratulate you on a fine effort.

Best Wishes,



Albert G. Cooper,
Member for Peace River,



Albert Cooper.

AU TRAVAIL — AT WORK



First meeting, April 11, 1986. Mrs. Marie Beaupré gives the group valuable information.



Gisèle Duguay and Louise Aubin, proofreading.



April 14, 1986 organisational meeting.



Françoise Dechief, Joanne Dechief and Tammy-Lyne Aubin (June 1987).



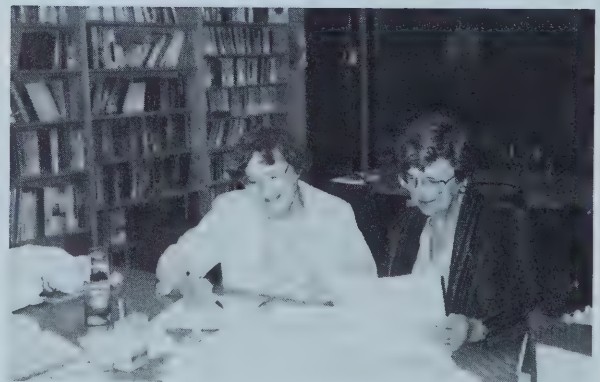
Cecile Aubin and Pierre Mencke (Feb. 1987).



Eva Johnson, Louise Aubin, Gilberte Lemay (June 1987).



Noëlla Fillion, Eva Johnson.



Eva Johnson, Cecile Aubin.

La communauté

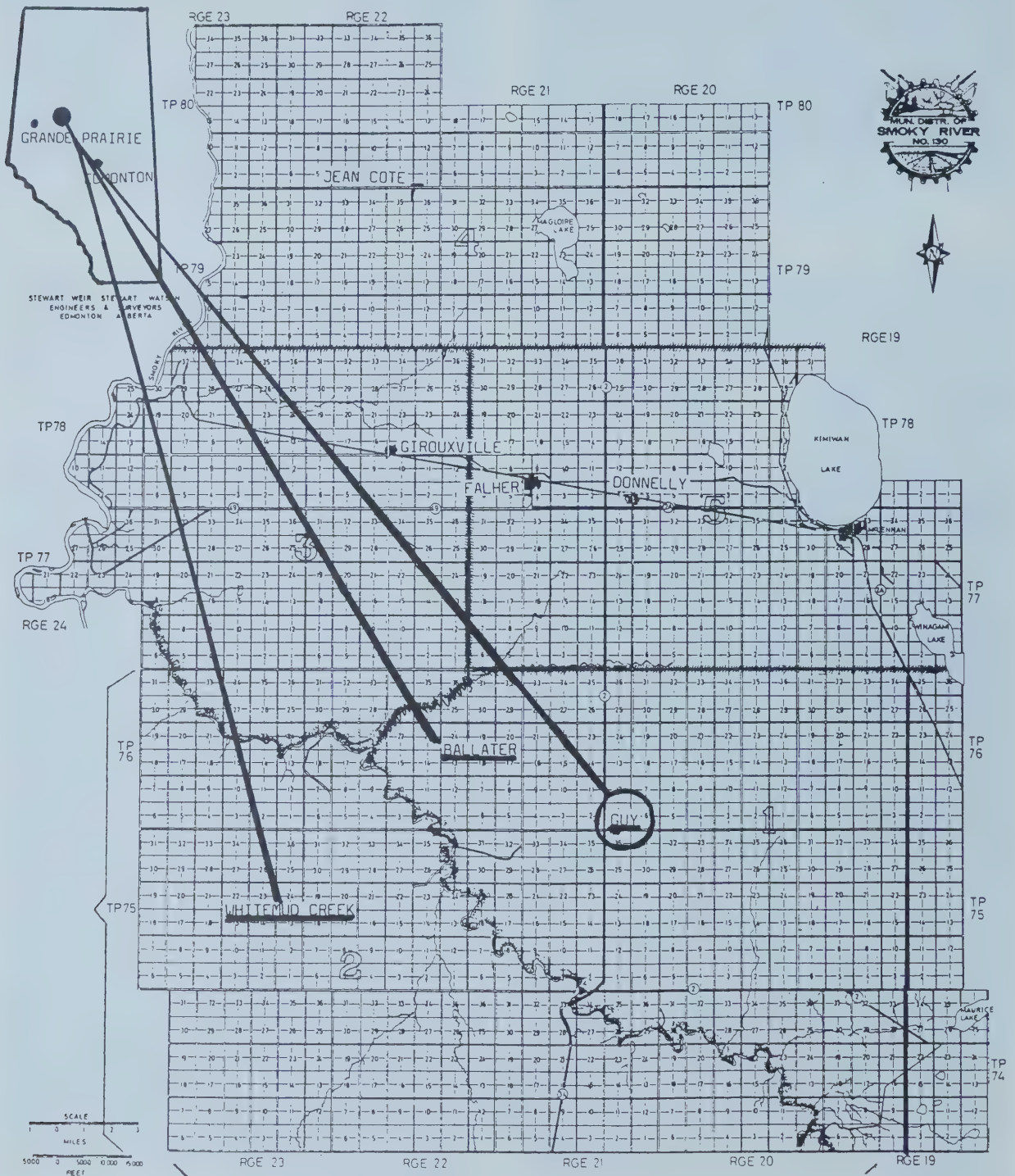
The Community



Le hameau de Guy, nommé d'après Mgr. Joseph Guy, o.m.i. The hamlet of Guy named after Bishop Joseph Guy, o.m.i.

Ce livre couvre:

This book covers: Townships 74, 75, 76, Ranges 19(W $\frac{1}{2}$), 20, 21, 22, 23.



BISHOP JOSEPH WILFRID GUY

by René Bélanger, o.m.i. from *Dictionnaire Biographique des Missionnaires O.M.I. de Gaston Carrière, o.m.i.*

Born in Montreal, July 28, 1883, son of Wilfrid Guy and Emelie Deslauriers, Joseph entered the religious order of the Missionary Oblates in 1900.

Ordained priest in Ottawa, June 9, 1906, he was first appointed teacher in Ottawa from 1906 to 1915 and then Pastor in Le Pas, Manitoba and Vicar General of Bishop Charlebois until 1920. That same year, he was chosen as a Canadian Delegate for the Oblate General Chapter in Rome.

Teacher at Ottawa University from 1920 to 1927 he was then named Superior of Mathieu College in Gravelbourg, Sask., from 1927 to 1929.

January 25, 1930, Pope Pius XI named Joseph



Son Excellence Monseigneur Guy, o.m.i. Bishop Joseph Wilfrid Guy, o.m.i.

Guy Apostolic Vicar of Grouard, where he became officially in charge June 3 of the same year.

During seven years Bishop Joseph Guy served the Church of the Grouard Vicariate as its first spiritual leader. His dedication to the Church was characterized by his special interest for minority groups and for the early settlers.

Joseph Guy was then transferred as Bishop of Gravelbourg from 1937 to 1942. On January 23,

1943, Bishop Guy was appointed director of the Oblate Commission for native missions in Canada.

Bishop Joseph Guy rests in the Oblate cemetery of Richelieu, Que.

* * *

Né à Montréal, le 28 juillet 1883, fils de Wilfrid Guy et d'Emelie Deslauriers, Joseph fit son entrée chez les Missionnaires Oblats en 1900.

Ordonné prêtre à Ottawa, le 9 juin 1906, il est d'abord professeur à Ottawa de 1906 à 1915. Il sera ensuite nommé curé de Le Pas, Manitoba, ainsi que Vicaire Général de Monseigneur Charlesbois jusqu'à 1920. Cette même année il est désigné comme délégué au Chapitre Général des Oblats à Rome.

Professeur à l'Université d'Ottawa de 1920 à 1927, il est alors nommé Supérieur au collège Mathieu de Gravelbourg Sask., de 1927 à 1929.

Le 25 janvier 1930, le Pape Pie XI le nomme Vicaire Apostolique du Vicariat de Grouard. Il entre en fonction le 3 juin de la même année.

Durant sept années, il exercera le Ministère Apostolique au service des fidèles du Vicariat de Grouard. Ce service d'Eglise sera caractérisé par son intérêt particulier pour les groupes minoritaires ainsi que pour la colonisation de ce nouveau pays.

Monseigneur Joseph Guy est transféré au diocèse de Gravelbourg. Il présidera à la vie de cette Eglise de 1937 à 1942. C'est alors qu'on lui demandera de fonder la Commission Oblate pour l'apostolat chez les peuples autochtones.

Monseigneur Joseph Guy fut inhumé au cimetière oblat de Richelieu, Qué.



AU DEBUT

par Elphège Boulet et Jos Chaibos

Avant la construction du chemin de fer, qui parvint à McLennan en 1915, la voie principale d'accès d'Edmonton était par Athabasca, ensuite en remontant les rivières Athabasca et Petite Rivière des Esclaves et traversant le Petit Lac des Esclaves dans sa longueur jusqu'à Grouard. De là on continuait par chemins en wagons et par sentiers primitifs.

Les premiers colons, recrutés au Québec et dans les Etats de la Nouvelle Angleterre par le Père Giroux, o.m.i. arrivèrent dans la région Donnelly-Falber au printemps 1912; ils dressèrent leur tente dans la Terre Promise, choisirent leurs "homesteads" et appliquèrent à Grouard pour leur terrain. Le même été ils bâtirent leurs premières cabanes de rondins, leurs "shacks", nettochèrent les premiers morceaux de terrain et les préparèrent pour l'ensemencement au printemps; puis ils retournèrent à Grouard pour trouver du travail et passer l'hiver. Au printemps 1913 ils revinrent à leur "homesteads"; d'autres les suivirent.

La colonie s'agrandit, mais plutôt lentement dans la forêt au sud, toutefois, après la première guerre mondiale la colonisation se fit plus rapide. On encourageait les vétérans à prendre des "homesteads", on leur donnait préférence dans le choix de terrain et un peu d'aide pour son développement.

De 1919, au début des années 1920 le territoire au sud de la ligne de base (la vingtième), les TWP 76-21-W5, TWP 76-20-W5, ainsi qu'une partie du TWP 75-21-W5, furent rapidement colonisés. Des "homesteads" furent pris par Hogan, Brennan, Dwyer, Restall, Vowden, Lessard, McDonald, Cloutier, Briand, McBride...et plusieurs autres. Des sentiers furent tracés jusqu'à la Smoky et au-delà dans le district Whitemud.

Durant les années de 1925, jusqu'au début des années trente la région fut occupée au sud jusqu'à la Smoky par les familles Brulotte, Lambert, Major, Charest, Loïselle, Sidoroff, Winnicky, Minarovich, Olshanowski, Tokarz, Wawrzonek, Chaibos, Snizek, et beaucoup, beaucoup d'autres qui arrivèrent et refoulèrent la frontière. Ce fut alors que les bases de la communauté de Guy furent établies.

Ce n'était pas "le meilleur des temps" et des causes lointaines de cette affluence de colons étaient "l'hiver du désespoir et le printemps de l'espérance", et si jamais il y eut un coin de colonisation qui démontrait la thèse de migration selon "zone de répulsion et zone d'attraction", telle fut la colonisation de Guy-



Visiting after mass celebrated in Willie Brulotte's house (1930).

Whitemud pour les années vingt et début des années trente.

L'Armistice de 1918 avait été signé et au Canada les soldats revenaient à la maison; en général la vie reprit son cours sans difficultés excessives. Mais en Europe de l'Est, qui avait souffert de la guerre, on y souffrait encore les maux de la révolution; il y eut l'immensité de la révolution Bolcheviste, mais ce ne fut pas la seule. "En Europe, après la première guerre mondiale, de tous les états nouveaux ou ressuscités, la Pologne fut sous bien des aspects dans la position la plus difficile. Le Territoire de la Pologne de Congrès et la Galicie avait été dévasté par la guerre. La plupart des usines qui échappèrent au démantèlement restaient fermées faute de matière première. Les paysans avaient vu leur champs dévastés, leur troupeaux anéantis, leur fermes brûlées. Plusieurs districts étaient voués à la famine, d'autres balayés par les épidémies." [Encyclopaedia Britannica.] Des années de chaos politique et économique suivirent pendant que la Pologne luttait pour rétablir son intégrité territoriale, l'unité et l'affirmation nationale de son peuple.

Dans les grandes plaines de l'Amérique les années sèches étaient communes mais une répétition d'années de faibles moyennes de précipitation menèrent à la désastreuse sécheresse des années 1930 qui fut accompagnée de tempêtes de poussière et infestation d'insectes. John Steinbeck parlait de l'Oklahoma mais les prairies canadiennes connurent aussi ces nuages sans pluie, ces nuages de poussière qui obscurcissent le ciel, cette poussière qui s'infiltrait partout jusqu'à tout couvrir dans les maisons et à la fin des habitants du "dust bowl" s'avancèrent dans les régions boisées du nord pour continuer la culture ou d'autres occupations. Ils abandonnèrent les terres qu'ils ne pouvaient vendre, les bâtiments impossibles à déménager,

ils laissèrent de la machinerie pour pourrir et rouiller près de la clôture, ensevelie sous cette terre poussée du vent.

Il y a des familles qui vinrent alors à la région Guy-Whitemud, d'autres retournèrent au Québec pour venir plus tard; l'attraction c'était le terrain peu couteux et assez bien arrosé, c'était aussi un groupe de canadiens-français près du chemin de fer dans les paroisses Donnelly-Falher-Girouxville. Pour les Européens de l'Est c'était une terre où vivre et travailler dans la liberté politique et religieuse. Un "homestead", dans ce pays d'abondance, pour \$10.00, c'était presque un rêve.

Comme l'indique les registres, la majorité du district fut occupé de 1925 à 1936 et beaucoup de terrain déboisé à la hache. Les colons venaient de partout, de la sécheresse du sud, des ravages de l'Europe, de l'Est; quelques-uns firent le long trajet à travers l'Asie et sortirent par la Chine. Des familles mirent en commun tout leur avoir pour en envoyer un en avant pour échapper à cette misère, et même les jeunes mariées, fiancées, restèrent en arrière, attendant les passeports et l'argent pour les billets. Ils avaient peu de biens matériels, mais ils étaient déterminés. Il y eut dans cette migration, de véritables sagas de persévérance et de dévouement familial, des récits de touchante beauté qui embrassent, pour certaines familles, plusieurs années. Heureusement un nombre de ces récits ont été écrits, mais pas tous et c'est dommage.

Cette migration fut juste à temps pour la Grande Crise, mais leur détermination avait été trempée et éprouvée, elle serait égale à toutes les difficultés.

IN THE BEGINNING

Prior to the railroad which reached McLennan in 1915, the main line of traffic from Edmonton was to Athabasca, then up the Athabasca and Lesser Slave Rivers and across the length of Lesser Slave Lake to Grouard. Traffic from Grouard was by wagon, roads and trails.

The first settlers, who had been recruited in Quebec and New England States by Father Giroux, arrived to the Donnelly-Falher area in the spring of 1912; they pitched their tents in the Promised Land, and filed in Grouard on selected homesteads south of Donnelly and Falher. The same summer they built their first log cabins, cleared a patch of land and prepared it for spring planting before returning to Grouard to find work and spend the winter. In the spring of 1913 they returned to their homesteads, followed by others.

The settlement expanded, but rather slowly into the forest to the south; however after the First World War colonization was more rapid. The Veterans were encouraged to take homesteads, were given preference in the selections of their homesteads, and they received some assistance to develop the land.

From 1919 to the early twenties the area south of the base line, TWP 76-21-W5 and TWP 76-20-W5 as well as part of TWP 75-21-W5, was rapidly settled. Homesteads were taken by Hogan, Brennan, Dwyer, Restall, Vowden, Lessard, McDonald, Cloutier, Briand, McBride...and many more. Trails were blazed to the Smoky and beyond into the Whitemud district.

In the years of 1925 to the early thirties the area south to the Smoky was settled rapidly as families such as Brulotte, Lambert, Major, Charrest, Loisel, Sideroff, Winnicky, Sniezek, Minarovich, Olshanowski, Tokarz, Wawrzonek, Chaibos...many, many more, arrived and pushed back the frontiers. That was the time when the foundations of the Guy community were laid.



Part of the Brulotte caravan - 7 covered wagons, 5 horses, travelled seven weeks from Flagstone, B.C. to the Guy area (1932). R.1 Shirley, Thelma & Clarina Brulotte. R.2 ??, ??, Josephine, Walter with cap, Delphis with hand in front of face, Mrs. Frank Brulotte in door of covered wagon.

It was not the "best of times" and some of the distant causes for this influx of settlers were bitter indeed. Yet it was "the winter of despair, and the spring of hope" and if ever there was a colonization area which fitted the theory of migration due to "zone of repulsion and zone of attraction", such was the settlement of the Guy-Whitemud area for the twenties and early thirties, as many settlers came from Europe and the Great Plains of America.

The 1918 Armistice had been signed, and in Canada the soldiers were coming home; gene-

rally life resumed without excessive difficulty. But Eastern Europe had suffered and still suffered the upheavals of war and revolution; there was the immensity of the Bolshevik revolution but it was not alone. "In Europe, after W. W. I of all the new or resurrected states, Poland was in many respects in the most difficult position. The territory of Congress Poland and Galicia had been devastated in the war. Most of the factories that had not been actually dismantled were closed for the lack of raw material. The fields of the peasants had been laid waste, their livestock slaughtered, their farms burned. Many districts were actually famine stricken, others swept by epidemics." [Encyclopaedia Britannica]

Years of political and economic chaos followed as Poland struggled to regain the integrity of its territory, the unity and national purpose of its people.

In the Great Plains of America dry years were common but repeated low annual averages of precipitation led to the disastrous prairie drought of the 1930's which was accompanied by dust storms and insect infestations. John Steinbeck wrote of Oklahoma, but Canada's southern prairies were not spared the rainless clouds and the clouds of dust, the all-pervading dust that blotted the sun and sifted into houses until it covered everything. And in the end some of the settlers from the "dust bowl" moved northward into the forested regions to resume agricultural and other practices. They abandoned land which could not be sold, buildings which could not be moved, and they left farm machinery to rust and rot by the fence, under the wind-driven topsoil.

Some families came to the Guy-Whitemud area at that time, some returned to Quebec and

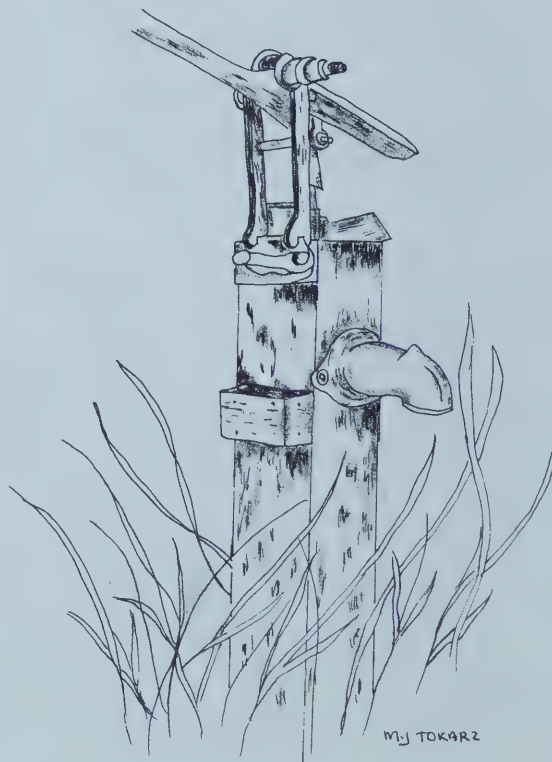
came later; the attraction was cheap land, relatively well-watered as well as an already established French-speaking community of Donnelly-Falher-Girouxville along the railway. For the East European it was a land to live and work in political and religious freedom. A homestead in the land of plenty for \$10.00 was almost a dream.

As records indicate, during the 1925-1936 era most of the district was settled and a substantial amount of land was cleared by hand. The settlers came from everywhere, from the dry South, from the ravaged Eastern Europe; some even made the long trek through Asia. Families pooled their resources to send someone over and even young brides stayed behind, waiting for passports and passage fare. Their belongings were few, but they were determined and there are sagas of family perseverance and devotion, stories of touching beauty in the migration which for some families took years to complete. Fortunately some of those stories were written, but not all.

It was just in time for the Great Depression, but their determination had been tempered and tested, it was equal to all difficulties.



Main street Falher 1930. Milet & Charles Dumont, Albert Morissette and Floyd Dumont (with pony) just leaving for their homestead in Whitemud Creek.



HISTORIQUE DE LA PAROISSE DE GUY

par une pionnière, Gilberte Lambert Lemay

Durant les années 1928 et 1929 des groupes de colons se dirigent vers une vaste région 12 milles au sud de Donnelly. C'est une grande étendue de terrain (township 75,76 rang 20 et 21) sur laquelle personne n'avait encore fixé son choix. Les premiers colons y voient la possibilité d'établir leurs enfants.

Plusieurs font application pour un "homestead".

Déjà en 1930 les colons catholiques font la demande auprès de Mgr Joseph Guy, Vicaire apostolique de Grouard pour obtenir la présence d'un prêtre. Monseigneur répond à leur besoin et envoie l'abbé Jean-François Mallet. Avant la construction de l'église la messe est célébrée un dimanche à l'ouest du territoire soit chez Henri Percheron ou Cyrille Fortier ou Omer Boisvert et le dimanche suivant chez Willie Brulotte ou chez Aurèle Lambert. Notre missionnaire demeurant à Donnelly doit parfois, dans des chemins impraticables, laisser sa voiture en chemin et se rendre à pied.

Le 26 juin 1931, Mgr Guy avertit le peuple catholique du district qu'il constitue en mission leur région et fixe le coin nord-est du terrain NW 36-75-21-W5, "homestead" prit par l'abbé Mallet, comme endroit où l'église sera érigée. Il désigne comme patron de cette nouvelle mission, Saint Guy, dont la fête se célèbre le 15 juin.

Dès le mois de juillet les gens entreprennent avec ardeur les travaux préliminaires en vue de la construction de l'église. Ils commencent par ouvrir des chemins à la hache car c'est en pleine forêt. Tout se fait par corvée: des membres de tous les foyers catholiques qu'ils soient canadiens-français, polonais ou ukrainiens font leur part.

En septembre 1931 on obtient du gouvernement le débouché du chemin au sud de Donnelly à partir de la ligne de base pour se rendre jusqu'à Guy. M. Olivier Thibault obtient le contrat. Ceci donne de l'emploi à douze hommes.

M. Ph. Gagné, contracteur de Vimy, prend charge des travaux de l'église. En octobre commence le creusage de la cave qui se fait avec des



Groupe après la messe célébrée chez M. Willie Brulotte. Row 1: Aldéo Major, ?, Henri Brulotte, Roseanna Brulotte, Micheline Brulotte, ?. Row 2: René Lambert, Aurèle Lambert, Louis Charest, Napoléon Loisel, Mme. Anna Loisel, Willie Brulotte, Abbé Jean-François Mallet, Germaine Brulotte, Arsène Fournier à droite des marches. Row 3: Sur le balcon: Adèlard Martel, avec chapeau?, Alcide Turcotte avec Yvette Turcotte, Annette Major, Mme. Rose Brulotte avec bébé Guy. Row 4: Deux enfants, ??, Carméline Lambert, Alma Brulotte, Aimé Charest, Rose Charest, Médora Brulotte, Gilberte Lambert, Alphonse Martel, Omer Lambert, Benoît Major, Albert Charest, Mme. Rosalie Major, Raoul Lambert, Roland Bastien, Paul Brulotte, Mme. Elmiere Lambert, Antoine Brulotte, Maurice Lambert, Jérémie Gingras.

pelles à chevaux, et aussi par des hommes robustes maniant de bonnes pelles. D'autres, aussi vaillants, ouvrent à la bache le demi-mille de chemin de douze pieds de large, à l'est de l'église afin de permettre l'entrée des charges de bois de construction qui doivent arriver par "freight" à Donnelly le 12 octobre. Le bois est charroyé avec deux wagons en arrière du tracteur de M. Alcide Turcotte, et aussi par M. André Boulet.

Le "sback" à l'ouest de l'église est d'abord construit afin de mettre à l'abri le matériel de construction. Il sert comme endroit où les travailleurs prennent leur dîner et où ils peuvent se réchauffer. Par la suite ce "sback" sera d'une grande utilité pour le curé et aussi pour les paroissiens, surtout en hiver. C'est là qu'ils prennent leur déjeuner après la communion en attendant l'heure de la messe. A ce temps-là il fallait être à jeun depuis minuit pour recevoir la sainte communion.

La construction de l'église se fait durant l'hiver 1931-32. L'arrière, à deux étages, servira de sacristie et de logement au curé. Cette partie terminée, la messe y est célébrée le 14 février 1932 pour la première fois. C'est là que sera désormais dite la messe jusqu'à la finition de l'intérieur de l'église.

On avait tout d'abord espéré qu'un emprunt d'environ 3000,00 \$ suffirait pour payer les matériaux et la main d'oeuvre de la construction. On s'aperçut à l'ouvrage que le bois commandé était insuffisant pour une bâtisse de 70' x 40' et il fallut prévoir une dépense plus considérable que celle qui avait été anticipée. On finit par faire un emprunt global de 6000,00 \$ qui devait être remboursé à raison de 153,00 \$ par trimestre. Comment y parviendrait-on lorsque la somme globale des quêtes de 1931 monte à 58,16 \$ et celle du premier semestre de 1932 rapporte 53,25 \$?

Le 20 mars, dimanche des rameaux, la sainte messe est célébrée dans l'église même pour la première fois. La quête est de 5,10 \$, la meilleure faite à Guy à date. C'est toujours le même problème: comment payer la dette?

Voici ce qu'écrivit l'abbé Mallet à son évêque, et la réponse de celui-ci:

Mon Dieu! quand je pourrais mettre en bois de chauffage toutes les épinettes que je vois autour de moi, je ne réaliserais pas ce montant, car je ne trouverai pas d'acquéreurs.

Les gens ici ne vendent rien: ni grain, ni bois, ni oeufs, ni beurre, ni animaux de boucherie, rien ne s'achetant ou ne se payant qu'à prix dérisoire.

La plupart sont sur le "relief". Les taxes municipales et scolaires ne se paient pas.

Les enfants sont sans chaussure et ils sont assez nombreux ceux qui me disent: "Nous irions bien à l'église, mais nous n'avons pas de quoi nous habiller."

Dans ces conditions, Monseigneur, que puis-je tirer des gens? Je ne voudrais pas vous dire comment et de quoi moi-même je vis, n'ayant pas même l'appoint du "relief".

Vous ne pouvez pas facilement cette année payer les intérêts de votre dette de paroisse. Mais cette crise ne durera pas toujours. Il faudra que vos paroissiens, quand les temps seront meilleurs, prennent conscience de leur obligations financières et reconnaissent les sacrifices qui ont été faits pour leur donner le bienfait d'une église paroissiale.

A partir du dimanche de Pâques, le 27 mars 1932, M. l'abbé Mallet réside à Guy.

Le contrat pour défricher l'emplacement du cimetière a été donné à M. Joseph Bourgeois qui a effectué ce travail avec l'aide de ses garçons.

La croix du clocher a été faite par M. Hilaire Leclerc, forgeron de Girouxville, au prix de 62,40 \$ et a été installée à 85 pieds au-dessus du niveau de la terre par M. Willie Brulotte. M. René Pelletier, alors député de Grouard, a donné la cloche qui est installée au clocher.

Au printemps 1932 avec des chemins impossibles, des paroissiens ne voulant pas manquer la messe, attellent quatre chevaux sur un wagon pour se rendre à l'église avec leur famille et quelques voisins.

La tôle pour couvrir l'église arrive par "freight" à Donnelly. C'est Aimé Lemay qui est chargé de l'emmener à Guy en voiture. Les chemins sont tellement mauvais qu'il doit changer de chevaux chez Aurèle Benoit à 5 mille de Guy; un peu plus loin sa voiture reste prise dans un trou de boue, il doit décharger son voyage pour que les chevaux puissent tirer la voiture, et puis la recharge et se rend à l'église. Ce voyage lui a pris 3 jours. C'est M. Henri Champagne, ferblantier, qui est engagé pour poser la tôle sur l'église.

La bénédiction de l'église eut lieu le 19 juin 1932 et l'on rapporte qu'à son inauguration solennelle il y eut 83 communions, une assistance d'environ 800, une quête de 19,70 \$, et la confirmation est donnée à 35 enfants, 19 garçons et 16 filles. On estimait la population globale dans le territoire de la Mission à 375 personnes dont 332 catholiques. Grâce à l'amabilité des Révérendes Soeurs de Ste-Croix de Donnelly l'autel revêtait ce jour-là, un beau voile de tabernacle tout neuf.

A Noël 1932 est célébré la première messe de minuit dans l'église joliment décorée pour la



Au pique-nique annuel (1948). Voitures: A. Lambert, ??, ??, P. Gagnon, Johnson, Gosselin.

circonstance; de beaux cantiques de Noël en français et en polonais rehaussaient la fête.

A tous les ans la Fête-Dieu est célébrée avec la procession très bien suivie avec cantiques et récitation du chapelet. Les beaux reposoirs font honneur à ceux qui les ont préparés.



Reposoir chez M. Aurèle Lambert à l'occasion de la Fête-Dieu.

Vers la fin de 1934, Mgr Guy crut bon de retirer le curé fondateur et de réduire la paroisse à l'état de desserte pour la confier tour à tour au Père Gobeil et aux abbés Bouvet et Martin. Le mardi 21 août, durant la retraite du clergé à Falher, quatre personnes de Guy: MM. Emile Johnson, Aurèle Lambert, Joseph Lagacé et Louis Charest vont rencontrer Mgr Guy et apportent une requête avec 50 signatures demandant que Guy reste paroisse avec l'abbé Mallet comme curé. Malgré tout l'abbé Mallet ne revient pas.



Intérieur de la nouvelle église.

M. l'abbé St-Pierre sera le pasteur de Guy du 24 novembre 1935 au 19 juin 1939. Ce sera ensuite M. l'abbé Paul Gagnon qui y demeurera jusqu'au 14 août 1946.

Malheureusement les années 1930 à 1940 sont des années de disette; les produits de la terre ne se vendaient pas. Beaucoup de gens sont sur l'assistance sociale. Les quêtes du dimanche ne sont pas assez élevées pour satisfaire à l'entretien de la paroisse et du curé. Mais les gens sont bien généreux, ils lui apportent ce qu'il y a sur la ferme: patates, légumes, viandes, oeufs, lait et beurre. Aussi on lui apporte du bois de chauffage en quantité suffisante pour au moins deux ans.

La population de Guy ne peut donc faire d'avantage, elle en souffre et espère en l'avenir tout en demandant à Dieu de lui aider.

Au cours de ces années les paroissiens luttent fort pour survivre, et aussi pour garder leur paroisse et leur curé. Quelques-uns seulement se découragent, laissent leur terre et partent, mais ceux qui ont eu foi en l'avenir ont progressé.

Durant l'été on organise des pique-niques sur le terrain de l'église; chacun apporte son dîner. Les jeunes s'organisent en équipes de balle molle. Guy joue contre Forest View, Ballater contre Edgehill, ensuite les plus forts se disputent le championnat. Aussi les gens mariés contre la jeunesse. Ces joutes amusent beaucoup les spectateurs.

Aussi on se réunit pour des fêtes champêtres avec voisins parents et amis pour s'amuser sans qu'il en coûte trop cher. Notre curé est toujours de la partie pour encourager ses paroissiens.

Et l'hiver il y a des parties de cartes, et le bazar.

Il est écrit dans des notes conservées, que le bazar du 13 octobre 1940 fut très bien réussi. On a servi le dîner et le souper à des prix extraordinaires 0,15 \$ pour adultes, 0,10 \$ pour les enfants et le réveillon gratuit. Et on remercie les paroissiens de Falher et de Donnelly d'être venus nous encourager. Recettes claires du bazar: 169,45 \$ Les revenus quoique bien faibles aident au développement de la paroisse et les gens aiment beaucoup ces rencontres agréables.

En 1938, les paroissiens ont dû battre le feu qui menaçait leur église pendant une couple de jours. Ils ont fait des tranchées et charroyé de l'eau pour empêcher le feu de courir dans l'herbe. Leurs efforts furent récompensés car une bonne pluie arrive juste à temps.



Presbytère, église, première école (1948).

A la fin de l'année 1939, le rapport paroissial annuel, celui-ci imprimé, mentionne des recettes de 692,77 \$, somme légèrement supérieure aux années précédentes. Le curé n'a pas pris de salaire mais le revenu supporte le léger salaire de la ménagère, Mme Bélanger, la pension du prêtre en plus des dépenses courantes. La loi gouvernant l'obtention de "homestead"

exigeait qu'un certain montant d'acres soient défrichés chaque années et parce que cette condition n'a pas été remplie, le Ministère des Terres et Mines a repris possession des cent soixante acres, "homestead" de l'abbé Mallet.

En 1940 le Ministère des Terres et Mines vend à la Corporation Episcopale 20 acres de terrain sur lesquels se trouvent l'église, le cimetière et sur lesquels sera construit plus tard le pensionnat.

Mais pendant ces années, le nombre de paroissiens augmente par l'accroissement naturel et la venue d'un certain nombre de familles.

Les recettes rencontrent les dépenses courantes mais presque aucun remboursement n'a été fait sur la dette et les intérêts composés l'ont élevée en 1944 à une somme globale de 9 344,00 \$. Les recettes sont de 993,00 \$ en 1940, 1 000,00 \$ en 1941 et 1 329,00 \$ en 1942. Mgr Routhier croit donc opportun de faciliter le remboursement de la dette en créditant une somme équivalente à toute somme qui serait payée par la paroisse. C'est ainsi qu'elle put rembourser sur la dette en 1944, 1 291,64 \$, la moitié étant payée par l'évêché; en 1945, 3 821,53 \$ et en 1946, 1082,00 \$. De 1947 au 18 mars 1948 la balance fut payée.

Le 18 février 1940, le rev. Père Michalowski, curé de Webster vint visiter les familles polonaises pour leur faciliter les devoirs pascals. Il visita aussi chaque famille en particulier, ce qu'il fit à maintes reprises dans les années qui suivirent.

En 1943, on refait en ciment les fondations de l'église; le contrat a été donné à M. Aurèle Benoit et le travail s'est fait par corvée avec beaucoup de bonne volonté. L'église qui reposait sur des piliers en bois sera maintenant sur une fondation solide, grâce à l'encouragement de l'abbé Paul Gagnon.

A partir de la mi-août 1946 M. l'abbé Wilfrid Dubé et M. l'abbé Claude De Champlain, tous les deux diacres du vicariat de Grouard, viennent demeurer à Guy pour les quelques semaines qui les séparent de leur ordination sacerdotale à la mi-octobre. Ils furent grandement appréciés pendant leur séjour. Aussi grande fut la joie des paroissiens le 24 octobre de voir revenir l'abbé de Champlain comme vicaire à Guy et desservant de la mission St-Marcel de Whitemud Creek. Durant son séjour à Guy il travailla fort pour obtenir l'école du village, et c'est le 3 février 1947 que le premier "shack" transformé en école ouvrait ses portes à une vingtaine d'élèves, et l'abbé de Champlain

en était le digne professeur. Il demeura à Guy jusqu'au mois d'août de cette même année.

Le 28 août 1947, les religieuses de Ste-Croix arrivèrent à Guy pour y prendre charge de l'école. La sacristie et le presbytère furent amé-



Guy Landmark

Father Lechasseur had this Rectory built in September, 1947, in Guy. When it was replaced in 1963 with a new building, Maurice Lambert purchased the building and moved it across the Smoky River, approximately 14 miles from Guy. The building still stands today.

Photo courtesy of Société Historique et Généalogique de Smoky River

nagés pour être leur première demeure, et le Père curé résida dans la vieille école, c'est-à-dire, dans le premier "shack". Pendant ce temps, on était à terminer un petit presbytère de 18x22 pieds.

Au mois de mars 1949, on avait besoin à Guy de quelques milles pieds de bois pour la construction du pensionnat et le moulin à scie de Raoul Lambert était sur le point de fermer.

Sur la proposition très favorable de Raoul, un groupe de bûcherons volontaires se rendirent de l'autre côté de la rivière dès le lundi 21 mars. C'étaient Rolland et George Bastien, Benoit Lachance, Léopold Lafleur, Joseph Lemay, René Lambert et Edgar Soucy. Ils y travaillèrent pendant quatre jours. Aimé Gosselin balait les billots de la forêt au moulin avec son tracteur à chenille. Et la semaine suivante l'équipe du chantier en marche offrait son temps gratuit pour le sciage des billots. Voici les noms de cette deuxième équipe: René Bradley, Lucien Caux, Albert et Raymond Charest, Raymond Dallaire, Simon Fortier, Eddie Gagné, François Jasmin, Maurice et Omer Lambert, Aimé, Adolphe et Joseph Lemay, Médéric et Roland Nairon. La paroisse rend hommage à tous ces volontaires pour cet acte de générosité et de collaboration paroissiale qui, sous l'habile direction et le dévouement du Rév. Père Lechasseur, se continua pendant la construction du pensionnat commencé en mai 1949.

Cet édifice, bien qu'inachevé, fut ouvert à 65 enfants et aux religieuses le 12 novembre 1949. Le 5 septembre 1951, la statue de Notre Dame de Fatima a pris place sur la façade du pensionnat. Pour élever à 18 pieds de terre une pièce de 1257 livres il fallut toute l'ingéniosité de Raoul Lambert qui à ce temps-là avait une jambe dans le plâtre. Assis sur un échafaudage, il guidait les opérations et le travail fut réalisé par Réal Lechasseur et par son frère Raphaël, prêtre et curé de Guy. La statue fut bénite par Mgr Routhier le 16 septembre. Une fois le pensionnat fermé les Rev. Soeurs de Ste-Croix firent don à la paroisse de Guy de cette belle statue qui se trouve maintenant au milieu du parterre en face de l'église.

En 1952 un groupe de cultivateurs avec le soutien de leur curé, l'abbé Florent Thys formèrent une coopérative d'électricité et en décembre 1953 une ligne apportait l'électricité et la lumière dans la plupart des foyers.

En 1954, un système de chauffage à l'huile fut installé au pensionnat, et les égouts furent refaits à neuf.

Vers les années 56-57 la municipalité fit construire de bons chemins partout et le village de Guy a maintenant l'avantage de se trouver tout près de la grande route No 2 ou du MacKenzie Highway. Plus tard cette route et le chemin qui se rend au village de Guy furent recouverts d'asphalte.

En cette année 1957, la communauté de Guy célébrait son 25ième anniversaire.

En revoyant le passé les citoyens de cette communauté se réjouissent du travail accompli depuis sa fondation.

*Les organisations de la paroisse
au cours de ses premières années*

1934 - 3 juin - La fondation d'un cercle de l'A.C.F.A.
présidé par M. Leo Kelhumeur secrétaire
général de l'A.C.F.A. et le Rev. Père Fortier
préfet des études aux collèges des Jésuites
à Edmonton -
Président: Joseph Lagacé, Vice-Président:
Aurèle Renout, Secrétaire: Louis Charest,
1^{er} conseiller: Emile Johnson, 2^{ème} conseiller:
Alcide Turcotte, 3^{ème} conseiller: Sébastien Jasmin
Notre curé l'abbé J.F. Mallet fut élu
président honoraire

1935 - 8 décembre - La Congrégation des dames d'Autel;
aussé appelée Les dames de Ste Anne.

1936 - 16 février - Election d'un conseil paroissiale.
Les premiers marguilliers étaient -
Emile Johnson, Aurèle Lambert, Walter
Hébert, Maurice Beauchamp, Sébastien
Jasmin.

1937 - 2 juillet - Fondation d'un Comité de Colonisation,
1^{er} comité de ce genre dans le vicariat de
Brouard - Président: Emile Johnson, Vice
président: Walter Hébert, Secrétaire: Maurice
Beauchamp. L'année suivante on ajoute à
ce comité 4 conseillers: Henri Percheron,
Aurèle Lambert, Willie Brulotte, Arthur
Robert.

1940 - mars - La Coopération à Guy.
3 cercles d'étude pour adultes ont été fondés
1^{er} Cercle: Aurèle Lambert, le mardi soir, au sud-est.
2^e Cercle: Emile Johnson, le jeudi soir, au nord-est.
3^e Cercle: Laurent Hébert, le vendredi soir, au nord-ouest.

1944 - 3 mars - fondation de la Caisse Populaire de Guy,
sous la présidence de M. Laurent Hébert,
employé pour les caisses Populaires de l'Alberta.

1933 - Fondation de la Co-operative d'électricité.
Prés: Paul Sagnon, Vice Prés: Jules Bourgeois,
Sec: François Jamin. Conseillers: Aimé Lemay,
Louis Reese, Joseph Johnson.

1934 - 16 mai - Fut fondé le cercle des dames féminines,
sous le patronage de Ste Jeanne d'Arc.
Présidente: Mme Jules Bourgeois, Vice Prés: Mme
Wilfrid Bisson, Sec. tris: Mme Gabriel Noël,
Conseillères: Mme Renée Aubin au sud-ouest,
Mme Leon Pelletier au nord, Mme A. Martel au
sud-est, Mme des Lagacé au village.
Mlle Yolande Rosselin pour les jeunes filles.
Annoncier: Rev Père Paul Thivierge.

1957 - Fondation de la Chambre de Commerce de Guy,
filiale de Donnelly.

1957 - 15 décembre - La paroisse de Guy possède son
cercle d'acordeur et Jeanne d'Arc.
Le dit cercle No 1132
Président: Leopold Dufleur, Vice Président: Aimé
Rosselin, Conseillers: Gabriel Noël, Sulpice
Brulotte, Sec: Gabriel Noël.
Pour les Jeanne d'Arc.
Présidente: Mme Raoul Lambert. Vice Présidente:
Mme Gabriel Noël, Conseillères: Mme Aimé
Rosselin, Mme Joseph Dancasse.
Secrétaire: Mme Gabriel Noël.

Il fut fondé aussi -
Un cercle d'Action Catholiques, P.
Un cercle d'Action Kuraka
Le Comité des Sports.

1977 - 21 juin - A été établi le premier Comité de
finance pour la paroisse de Guy.
Président: Rod. Caron, Vice Président:
Aimé Lemay, 1^{er} directeur: Louis Tokarz,
2^e directeur: Renée Aubin,
3^e directeur: Gérard Jamin,
Secrétaire: Liberté Lemay.

DONS FAITS À L'ÉGLISE

Dons faits à l'église

1932 - La cloche de l'église, don de
M. René Pelletier, alors membre
du parlement.

1932 - Voile du Tabernacle, don des Sœurs
Ste Croix de Donnelly.

1937 - 28 février - Magnifiques candelabres
pour le salut du Saint-Sacrement,
don de M. & Mme Aurèle Hébert.

1939 - juillet - Une belle chape violette
don de Mgr. Langlois.

1940 - avril - Écurie fournie par Arthur Rosselin
et transportée sur le terrain de l'église
par 4 teams de chevaux de
Robert Bourgeois, Frank Brulotte
Orner Lambert et René Lambert.
et installée par Arthur Rosselin
et Anne Lemay.

1940 - 28 avril - Statue de St François d'Assise
par M. & Mme Sébastien Jamin.

1942 - 21 juin - Statue de la Sainte Vierge
donnée par Mlle Marie Evanuk,
institutrice à l'école Whiteland.

1943 - 16 mai - Brassards de deuil blanc,
donnés par la famille de Mme Anna Lemay
à l'occasion du décès de son fils Wilfrid.

1944 - Dons pour faire raffler au profit
de la paroisse et de l'église.
Une pouliche par Arthur Rosselin.
Un cochon par Wilfrid Bisson
Un mouton par Walter Hébert.
Un radio par Maurice Beauchamp.
Un \$5.00 par l'abbé Paul Sagnon.

1945 - 22 juillet - Bénédiction d'une statue de St. Guy,
qui a 5 pieds de haut et pèse 200 livres.
Contribution des paroissiens à une
collecte spécial faite par M. Joseph Lagacé.

1946 - Le jour de l'Ascension fut béni une
statue de Ste Thérèse de l'Enfant Jésus,
don de M. & Mme André Boulet de Donnelly.

- Statue de Ste Anne offerte par la famille
d'Antoine Bélanger.

- Statue de St. Joseph donnée par
la famille Jamin.

- Buste du Sacré Cœur donné par
M. & Mme Odilon Fortier.

1961 - Les Sœurs de Ste Croix firent don à la
paroisse de la statue de Notre Dame
de Fatima qui était érigée au-dessus
de l'entrée du pensionnat. Cette statue
fut installée au milieu du parterre.

1969 - Quand les Sœurs de Ste Croix
déménageront à Donnelly, elle firent
don de leur autel et tabernacle pour
l'église de Guy.

LA PAROISSE ST-GUY

par René Bélanger, o.m.i. Prêtre et Pasteur

L'histoire de la paroisse St-Guy fait partie
intégrante de la vie et de l'histoire des premiers
colonisateurs de ce territoire.

Dès 1930, quelques familles catholiques établies ici demandaient la présence d'un prêtre qui partagerait avec elles l'aventure de la colonie et serait leur pasteur. C'est ainsi, que le 21



L'abbé Jean-François Mallet (1931-34).

février 1931, M. l'abbé François Mallet arrivait à Guy pour y visiter les familles et exercer le ministère sacerdotal.

M. Mallet pris donc un "homestead" sur lequel on construirait la future église de Guy. Les colons déboisent l'emplacement de l'église et les travaux de construction commencent dès octobre 1931 pour se poursuivre tard dans l'hiver de 1932.

Ce sera le dimanche des Rameaux, 20 mars 1932, que la communauté chrétienne de Guy participera à l'Eucharistie dans leur nouvelle église pour la première fois. Mgr. Joseph Guy, o.m.i. en fera la bénédiction solennelle, en la fête de St-Guy, patron de la paroisse, le dimanche, 19 juin 1932. Après le départ de l'abbé Mallet en octobre 1934, la paroisse sera desservie successivement par le Père A. Gobeil, o.m.i. ainsi que M. l'abbé O. Bouvet et G. Martin.

M. l'abbé Camille Saint-Pierre sera le pasteur de Guy du 24 novembre 1935 au 19 juin 1939. Ce sera ensuite M. l'abbé Paul Gagnon qui y demeurera jusqu'au 14 août 1946. La paroisse s'enrichira de 21 nouvelles familles et elle aura son école centrale paroissiale où le français et le catéchisme y sont enseignés.

Ce sera ensuite le Père R. Lechasseur, o.m.i. qui exercera le ministère pastoral à Guy pour les six prochaines années: 21 septembre 1952. Au cours de cette période naîtra le district scolaire "Langlois", les Soeurs de Sainte-Croix arriveront le 28 août 1947 et un pensionnat sera construit pour abriter 65 étudiants dès le 14 novembre 1949.

M. l'abbé F. Thys sera pasteur de Guy le 21 septembre 1952, suivi du Père P. Thivièrge, o.m.i. le 26 avril 1953.

Ce sera ensuite le Père J. Campagna, o.m.i. qui sera curé de Guy où il arrivera à l'automne 1954 pour y demeurer durant sept années. Le 16 juin 1957, la paroisse de Guy célèbre dans la joie ses Noces d'Argent. A cette occasion l'église sera embellie d'un grand crucifix ainsi que d'un nouveau chemin de croix. Au cours du même hiver, le plancher de l'église sera refait et on y construit des beaux bancs d'église.

Sous la direction de l'abbé C. de Champlain, arrivé au mois de mars 1961, la vie paroissiale se continue. Le terrain en face de l'église sera embelli par des arbres, une pelouse, un trottoir en ciment et la statue de Notre-Dame de Fatima



L'abbé Camille St-Pierre. (1935-1939)



L'abbé Paul Gagnon, (1939-1946) avec René Lambert et Aimé Lemay, enfants de chœur.



Liberia Bélanger avec bébé Guy, Antoine Bélanger et l'abbé Paul Gagnon devant le premier "shack" à Guy.

sera placée au centre du parterre où elle accueille paroissiens et visiteurs. Le 8 juin 1963, le nouveau couvent des Soeurs de Sainte-Croix est terminé et il sera béni le 1 mai 1964 par Mgr. Henri Routhier, o.m.i.

En 1963, le Père C. Richer, o.m.i. est nommé



Raphaël Lechasseur, o.m.i.
(1946-1952)



Père Joachim Campagna, o.m.i. (1954-1961) avec Antoine Lagacé.



L'abbé Florent Thys. (1952-1953)



Abbé Claude de Champlain.
(1961-1963)



Père Paul Thivierge, o.m.i. (1953-1954)

curé de Guy. Au cours de ces années, un nouveau presbytère sera construit et des rénovations majeures seront faites à l'église. L'ancien pensionnat sera alors démoli.

Le Père B. Frigon, o.m.i arrive comme pasteur de Guy en 1968. Ce sera au tour de la salle paroissiale d'être rénovée. Le 23 mars 1969, un souper paroissial souligne la fin des rénovations. Durant une année d'absence du curé, (1969-70), le Père O. Pinard, o.m.i. sera remplaçant. C'est à cette époque que les Soeurs de Sainte Croix déménagent à Donnelly. Le couvent sera vendu l'année suivante.

En 1974, c'est le Père L. Lafontaine qui arrive comme curé de Guy. Il y demeurera quatre années. En 1977, la maladie l'obligera à des absences prolongées et successives. C'est alors qu'un comité de finance est organisé pour voir

Clément Richer, o.m.i.
(1963–1968)



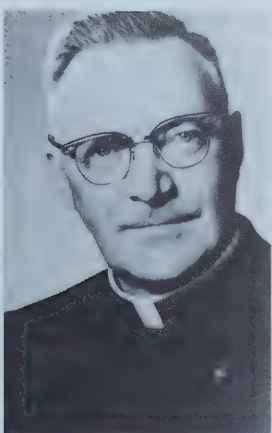
Lucien Lafontaine, o.m.i (1974–1978), Oscar Pinard, o.m.i.
(1969–1970)

Benoit Frigon, o.m.i.
(1968–1974)



Soeur Orietta Bélanger, f.c.s.p. et René Bélanger, o.m.i à
l'occasion de son jubilé d'argent. (1980–1987)

Denis Dubuc, o.m.i.
(1978–1980)



à la bonne marche administrative de la paroisse.

Le Père D. Dubuc, o.m.i. est nommé curé de Guy le 7 février 1978. Il y exercera le ministère pastoral jusqu'au 24 août 1980.

En septembre 1980, le Père R. Bélanger, o.m.i. devient le nouveau pasteur résident, à temps partiel, à la paroisse St-Guy. L'école de Guy vient de fermer ses portes et les étudiants doivent désormais se rendre aux écoles Vanier ou Routhier. Mais la communauté paroissiale est bien vivante. Un événement historique pointe à l'horizon, le 50ième anniversaire de la paroisse. Un comité "ad hoc" est organisé et tout est mis en branle pour la célébration. Les 4 et 5 juillet 1981, on célèbre les pionniers et les anciens paroissiens affluent de partout pour venir participer aux Noces d'Or de la paroisse St-Guy. Journées de fête, de célébrations, de joie, d'amitié, de retrouvailles et d'action de grâce. A l'automne de la même année, il y aura Eucharistie d'Action de Grâces présidée par Mgr. Henri Légaré, o.m.i., grand

souper paroissial suivi d'un concert au gymnase de l'ancienne école de Guy.

Des travaux importants de rénovations ont été réalisés depuis cinq ans: un nouveau toit au presbytère, tuiles lacrymales à l'église ainsi qu'au presbytère, l'intérieur de l'église a été complètement peinturé, les châssis rénovés et enfin, un joli tapis couvre tout le sanctuaire ainsi que l'allée centrale de l'église.

Au cours de ces dernières années, le comité de finance ainsi que le comité de liturgie jouent un rôle très important dans la vie paroissiale. A travers ces divers organismes, c'est la communauté de croyants et de croyantes qui se prend progressivement en charge en collaboration étroite avec le pasteur. Ainsi, prêtre et laïcs travaillent ensemble en "collégialité" pour construire l'Eglise du Christ qui est à Guy.

Décrire la véritable histoire d'une communauté paroissiale à l'intérieur des contraintes normales d'un livre historique comme celui-ci est une tâche pratiquement impossible.

On doit se limiter à signaler des dates précises, des événements extérieurs plus marquants, des travaux matériels importants. C'est ce que vous avez pu constater dans ce récit.

C'est pourquoi, en toute bonnêteté historique, je me dois de rappeler aux lecteurs et aux lectrices de cette histoire paroissiale, que tout cela, ce n'est que l'écorce de l'arbre, car la sève de vie qui circule à l'intérieur est invisible à nos yeux.

THE PARISH OF ST. GUY'S FIRST YEARS

On the 21st of February, 1931, Father F. Mallet meets the people for the first time.

The building of Guy Catholic Church starts in October, 1931.

On March the 22nd, 1932, Holy Mass is offered in the Church for the first time.

On June 19th, 1932, His Excellency Bishop Joseph Guy, o.m.i., blesses the Church.

On June 19th, 1939, with Father P. Gagnon in charge, work on the basement of the Church starts.

On February the 2nd, 1947, Father C. De Champlain teaches school at Guy.

On August the 28th, 1947, the Sisters of Holy Cross arrive at Guy.

In 1949, Father Lechasseur, being parish priest, starts building of the Convent of Our Lady of Fatima.

In 1953 and 1954, the power line reaches Guy – new roads are built.

In 1955, the MacKenzie Highway passes through our district.

June 16th, 1957, Silver Jubilee of the Parish of Guy.

SOME EVENTS OF THE SECOND 25 YEAR PERIOD:

June 16, 1957, Guy celebrates its Silver Jubilee.

July, 1957, as a Silver Jubilee project, a large crucifix is placed above the altar and a new Way of the Cross is installed in the Church.

Winter, 1957–58; renovations are made in the church. A new floor is constructed, linoleum is laid, and new benches are installed.

September, 1957: centralization of the School Districts Langlois, Benoit, Whiteland, River Valley and Luro is done at Langlois School.

June 22, 1957. His Excellency Bishop Henri Routhier blesses the new School.

September, 1957. The Langlois School begins offering instruction to the High School grades.

March, 1961. Reverend Father Joachim Campagna, parish priest since 1954, leaves Guy and is replaced by Father Claude De Champlain.

1961–63: The church grounds are landscaped, trees are planted, sidewalks are built, the statue of Our Lady of Fatima is installed in front of the church.

1962–63: A new convent is being built, and on June 8, 1963, the Sisters of Holy Cross move into their new house.

October 30, 1963'' The Parent–Teacher Association holds its first meeting.

May 1, 1964: His Excellency Bishop Henri Routhier blesses the new convent.

1963–68: Reverend Father Clement Richer is the pastor at Guy. A new rectory is built. Renovations are made to the church. The old convent (Boarding house) after having been used as parish hall for a few years, is demolished.

September, 1967. The High School is centralized at Donnelly.

May 5, 1968. The Pre–School starts at Guy.

1968. Reverend Father Benoit Frigon becomes the new pastor at Guy. Extensive renovations are made to the parish hall.

1969–70. Father Frigon leaves for a year of study and is replaced for that period of time by Reverend Father Oscar Pinard.

September, 1969. The Sisters of the Holy Cross move to Donnelly, and the next year, the convent is sold.

1974–78: Reverend Father Lucien Lafontaine is the parish priest. In 1977, he has to leave because of illness. Priests from other parishes come for the Sunday Eucharistic celebrations.

1977: A parish committee is formed to see to

the proper functioning of the parish during Father Lafontaine's illness.

1978: His Excellency Bishop Henri Legare names Reverend Father Denis Dubuc as the parish priest.

September, 1979. Due to the small enrolment, the School Authorities decide to close the Langlois School and to transport the students to Donnelly or Falher.

1980. Reverend Father Rene Belanger becomes the new pastor.

1981. Guy celebrates its Golden Jubilee.



Baptême d'adulte: Kathy Blais, par René Bélanger, o.m.i.



Confirmation: R.1 Rocky Johnson, Michelle Aubin, Debbie Bouchard, Sandy Bouchard, Leonard Desharnais, Donald Desharnais, Léo Arseneault, Arlene Chaibos. R.2 Curtis Johnson, Léo Forseille, Dwayne Tally, Père Bélanger, Mgr Légaré, Karen Sawchyn, Marianne Gagné, Lorraine Lambert. This group of students were Grades 1 and 2 in Guy in 1975-76 and were reunited for Confirmation in Guy in 1983.

1985- The parishioners organise a surprise celebration for Father René Bélanger's 25th year of priesthood: special hymns and congratulations were offered during mass followed by a community dinner and entertainment by the local people. A set of luggage was presented to Father Bélanger in appreciation of his devotion to his congregation.

SAVEZ-VOUS QUE . . .

1930: Rev. Père Peran curé de Donnelly vient dire la messe deux ou trois fois chez M. Willie Brulotte avant que cette région devienne paroisse.

1931, 15 jan.: Premier décès: Mme Alcide Turcotte (Jeanne Lupien) à l'hôpital de McLennan, inhumée à Donnelly.

1931, 12 fév.: L'abbé Mallet prend un homestead.

1931, 19 fév: Première visite de Mgr. Joseph Guy, o.m.i. Il vient voir le terrain de l'abbé Mallet.

1931, 22 fév.: Premier baptême: Guy, né le 5 fév. baptisé dans la maison de ses parents, M. et Mme. Willie Brulotte.

1931, 9 août: Premier baptême à Ballater, dans la maison de M. Omer Boisvert; Joseph Fernand Elzear Cloutier, né le 4 mars, enfant de M. et Mme. Aimé Cloutier.

1931, octobre: La construction de l'église commence.

1931, 20 décembre: Première sépulture, Richard Bourgeois, fils de M. et Mme. Joseph Bourgeois, âgé de 14 ans, inhumé sur le terrain de l'église. Il n'y avait pas encore de cimetière.

1932, 14 fév.: Premier baptême dans l'église-sacristie, John Edward, enfant de M. et Mme. Walter Wawrzonek.

1932, 22 mars: Première messe dans l'église.

1932, 28 mars: Premier mariage dans l'église; Michael Sneizek et Rose Charest.

1932, mars: M. MÉRIL Lussier construit une petite maison qui deviendra premier magasin à Guy.

1933, janvier: Un "party d'hiver" — patinage sur la rivière Little Smoky, présents: M. et Mme. W. Brulotte et leurs enfants, Paul, Antoine, Rose Anna, M. et Mme. Major et famille, M. Philippe Gagné, Mlle. B. Mathieu, Gédéon et Alcide Turcotte, Dollard et Alphonse Martel.

1933, février: Feu qui détruit la maison de la famille Mitch Brulotte.

1933, 8 septembre: Cheminée de l'église jetée à terre et reconstruite par Elzéar Dubois, briqueteur et son aide Roméo Roy — salaires:

- 40¢ de l'heure, 45 heures et l'aide 25¢ de l'heure, 45 heures.
- 1936: Election d'un Conseil Paroissial: M. Walter Hebert, Maurice Beauchamp, Andrew Luberd, Aurèle Lambert et Emile Johnson.
- 1936, 3 mai: Le Père Joseph Fortier S.J., inspecteur des écoles pour le français dans la province visite l'école Whiteland.
- 1936, 14 juillet: Ouverture de l'école Benoit.
- 1936, 16 août: Visite du Rev. Père Bodko, ukrainien, pour ministère auprès des gens de sa race et des Polonais de la paroisse.
- 1936, 13 déc.: Bazar paroissial organisé par les Dames de l'Autel, coutume qui sera continuée annuellement jusqu'à nos jours.
- 1936, 25 déc.: Après les trois messes de la nuit, collation dans l'église. Chacun apporte son goûter et M. le Curé fournit le café; cette coutume se continuera pendant plusieurs années.
- 1937, 11 juillet: Corvée paroissiale cette semaine pour bâtir un kiosque pour le pique-nique qui aura lieu le 18 juillet. Revenu net de ce pique-nique: \$37.56.
- 1936: Supplices des marguilliers pour demander un prêtre résident à Guy:
- 1938: "Attendu que la population catholique de Guy s'élève à 400 âmes et que cette population souffre beaucoup de l'éloignement du prêtre tant pour les cas de maladie que pour la réception des sacrements en general, "attendu qu'une grande partie de cette population, près des trois-quart, à déjà desappris le chemin de l'église et semble oublier le devoir dominical, "Nous marguilliers de Guy, implorons avec instances la nomination d'un curé résident à Guy, et promettons de faire tout ce qui sera humainement possible pour coopérer avec lui et lui faciliter sa tâche. (signé Emile Johnson, Aurele Lambert, Sebastien Jasmin, Andrew Luberd, Albert Tokarz. — Syndics)
- 1934, mai: Les jeunes gens donnèrent avec une grande maîtrise, la désopilante comédie de Blain des Cormiers, "Le homard et les plaideurs."
- 1940, 4 août: Deux religieuses de Ste Croix, Sr. Germaine et Sr. Gabriel viennent passer une semaine à Guy pour y enseigner la catéchisme à l'école Whiteland. (22 enfants).
- 1943, juin: Sept acres sur le terrain de l'église ont été clairés avec l'arrache-souche de M. Frank Brulotte. En 1944, M. Aimé Lemay a fait le cassage de ce terrain avec le tracteur de Raoul Lambert.
- 1943: Corvée de bois pour l'église. Huit hommes vinrent couper du bois et le transporter au sud de l'église où il sera scié par M. Doucet de Falher aidé de 7 paroissiens de Guy. M. Rolland Bastien apporte une belle charge de bois vert.
- 1943, 18 fév.: La glacière de la paroisse a été remplie par Gérard et François Jasmin qui ont apporté 44 blocs de glace.
- 1943, 1 nov.: Les écoles Benoit (institutrice, Cécile Houde) et Whiteland (Yvette Houde) organisent une soirée pour acheter les cadeaux des enfants pour l'arbre de Noël. Revenu \$120.00. Un record!
- 1944, 3 juillet: Corvée pour fendre le bois — on apporte sa hache, son dîner, le curé fera la soupe et le thé. Venez nombreux! Il ne faut pas se fier sur le voisin.
- 1944, 16 juillet: Bénédiction des autos.
- 1944, août: M. Dlugosz et M. Aurèle Benoit mettent leur camion à la disposition des fidèles pour le pèlerinage à Girouxville.
- 1944, automne: Il faut avoir 25 voyages de bois par années scié en 24" and 14". Il faut aussi 9 tonnes de glace par années.
- 1944, 9 juillet: Une collecte est faite dans la paroisse pour acheter une statue de St. Guy pour l'église. Cette statue sera commandée de Montreal au coût de \$105.00, plus \$8.40 pour taxe fédéral et \$22.68 de transport.
- 1944, juillet: M. Aurèle Benoit a reçu son permis pour vendre du gaz à son magasin à Guy.
- 1944: La paroisse de Guy a maintenant 3 bureaux de poste: Forest View, Guy, Ballater et a obtenu 3 courriers par semaine au lieu de deux. Trois écoles sont ouvertes, Benoit, Edgehill et Whiteland.
- 1944: A Guy, on a commencé à fabriquer des briques de ciment de 16" x 8". M. Edmond Labbé, Ephrem Lessard, Jos Morin, aidé du jeune Laurent Pelletier sont occupés à ce travail. Ils sont installés près de chez M. Vincelette, le long de la Smoky. Ils ont déjà le contrat pour le magasin de 50' x 60' de M. T. Remillard à Girouxville et celui de T. Dentinger de Falher.
- 1944, août: On nous apprend que les matériaux pour un traversier sur la rivière Little Smoky sont rendus à Falher. Ce traversier sera à sept milles à l'ouest de Guy.
- 1945, août: Le "cat" de M. Eymard a creusé une vingtaine d'étangs à Guy, M. Dollard Martel creuse des puits pour communiquer avec ces étangs.
- 1946, nov.: On entreprend des rénovations à l'église pour améliorer le système de chauffage. Tous les conduits d'air chaud et d'air froid ont été retouchés et une souffeuse a poussé plus de 10 charges de ripe dans la



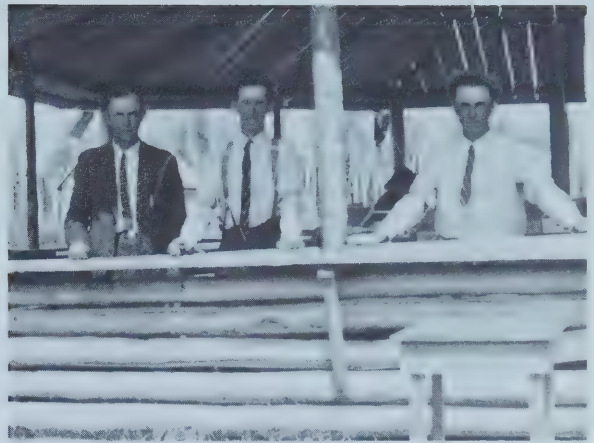
Crèche de Noël. (1960)



Abbé Paul Gagnon et les religieuses de Ste-Croix avec une classe de catéchisme pendant les vacances d'été à l'école Whiteland.



Sunday gathering at Albert Tokarz's home with Father Paul Gagnon, o.m.i. and Father Michalowski and the Walter Wawrzonek and Andrew Dlugosz families.



Aurèle Lambert, Eugène Lemay and Arthur Gosselin in the food booth during one of the annual parish picnics.



Préparation pour ériger la statue sur le couvent. Philippe Paquette, Réal Lechasseur, Raoul Lambert (avec béquilles).



Mass celebrated outdoors (1931). Three ladies in foreground: Médora Brulotte, Alice Loiselle, Carmeline Lambert.

voûte de l'église. L'ouvrage n'étant pas fini pour le 26 novembre alors que deux mariages étaient annoncés pour ce jour-là le Père curé aménagea le premier shack. C'est là qu'il bénissait le mariage de Eddy Gagné et Marie Lemay ainsi que celui de Paul Lemay et Chantal Lafleur.

1947, mars: M. Willie Brulotte vient de recevoir les licences requises pour la vente de quincaillerie (hardware). Il peut aussi faire de la soudure au gaz.

1947: M. J. Dancause de McLennan est à se bâtir magasin et résidence à Guy. M. Benoit Aubin attend quelques barils de clous pour terminer la sienne.

1948, sept.: Quelques membres de la famille Lambert-Lemay ont fait un chemin de 42 pieds de largeur entre le terrain de la fabrique et celui de M. Mike Snizek. Ceci sur une profondeur de quatre acres.

1948, octobre: Un feu détruit la boutique de forge avec son contenu d'outils de M. Joseph Lagacé, ainsi qu'une grainerie remplie de luzerne et de trèfle d'odeur. Cette perte totale s'évalue à plus de \$2,000.00.

1955, déc.: Un autobus dont M. Léo Lagacé en est le chauffeur, est mis à la dispositions des élèves de River Valley afin de les transporter à l'école Langlois.

1949, printemps: Un feu de cheminé a détruit la demeure de la famille Alphonse Martel.

1949: Feu de forêt, immense brasier, au Little Smoky Farm Industries. Les pertes sont évaluées à \$5,000.00, ce qui comprend 4 bâtiments, le magasin, 2 glacières, l'usine électrique et un réservoir d'essence d'une capacité de 500 gallons.

1952, août: Les paroissiens en corvée sous la direction de Réal Lechasseur ont recouvert les murs extérieurs de l'église en papier brique gris et les cadres ont été peinturés.

1958, mars: L'église s'est enrichie d'un plancher recouvert de linoléum et de beaux bancs neufs construits par M. Joseph Turcotte et M. Benoit Aubin.

1960, Noël: Première crèche extérieure réalisé par la Jeunesse Etudiante Catholique. Trois jeunes aidés par le Père Campagna, bâtirent la crèche: Jacques Noël, Henri Lambert, et Denis Aubin. Les postulantes des Soeurs de Ste. Croix firent les personnages et les équipes de l'Action Rurale payèrent les dépenses.

1985, 23 juin: 25^e Anniversaire de prêtrise de René Bélanger, o.m.i. curé. Les paroissiens ont été heureux de le fêter.

1986, août: Le député provincial, Marvin Moore, aide à obtenir l'eau courante et les égouts pour le village de Guy. Les installations se font pendant l'été.

1986: La partie sud de l'école Langlois qui comprend le gymnase et deux classes, achetée par le Comité des Sports de Guy, comme salle communautaire, s'embellit d'une finition nouvelle à l'extérieure. On y installe aussi l'eau courante et les égouts. Travail bénévole.

1987, 8 mars: Incendie qui détruit complètement le magasin de John et Gemma Tokarz ainsi que le bureau de poste.

1987, 10 mars: Le bureau de poste est en opération le 2^e journée après l'incendie dans la petite bâtisse utilisée par la Credit Union.

CROIX DU CHEMIN

par Gilberte Lemay

Autrefois, c'était la coutume dans les paroisses de planter des croix de chemin, soit pour demander une faveur au Bon Dieu ou à la Sainte Vierge, soit pour remercier pour une faveur obtenue. Et au mois de Marie ou du Rosaire les exercices se faisaient à la croix du chemin.

Au printemps de 1945, M. Moïse Lafleur, avec l'autorisation et sur les conseils de M. le



Curé, fit une belle croix d'une vingtaine de pieds de haut, toute peinte en blanc avec une niche contenant une statuette de la Sainte Vierge. Elle fut installée à l'intersection de la grande route de Donnelly et la route qui mène à l'église de Guy, sur le coin du terrain appartenant alors à Mike Sniezek, qui était très heureux de laisser un coin de sa terre à la Vierge Marie.

Le jour de la Pentecôte, à la grand-messe, toute la paroisse était convoquée pour 8 heures du soir pour la bénédiction de cette croix et l'exercice du mois de Marie.

La cérémonie fut présidée par le R. Père Robert, alors curé desservant à Guy. Il fit d'abord une allocution et expliqua le sens de cette pratique religieuse. Ensuite il procéda à la bénédiction de la croix. On récita le chapelet en chantant les mystères. Le tout se termina par la prière du soir. La paroisse était représentée par une centaine de personnes.

Le premier mai 1946 M. Léopold Lafleur plante une croix sur son terrain, situé au S.E. 13-76-21. Le 5 mai ce fut la bénédiction de cette croix chez M. Lafleur avec l'exercice du mois de Marie; de nombreux paroissiens y ont assisté.

Tous les soirs le mois de Marie se faisait à chacune de ces croix du chemin.

M. et Mme Lambert, depuis longtemps déjà, avaient manifesté le désir d'avoir une croix du chemin sur le coin de leur terrain. Pendant qu'ils étaient partis pour un mois pour visiter des parents dans l'Est, leurs enfants décidèrent de leur faire une surprise à leur retour. Tous se mirent à l'oeuvre et bâtirent une croix en bois de six pouces carrés, toute peinte en blanc installée sur le coin du NW 19-75-20. Ils creusèrent dans le bois une niche pour mettre une statue de la Sainte Vierge, et au-dessus un crucifix.

Grande fut la surprise des parents quand ils arrivèrent en voyant leur désir réalisé. C'est le 19 mai que l'abbé P. Gagnon accompagné du Père Michalowski, curé Polonais de Webster, Alberta, qui visitait les paroissiens de langue polonaise de Guy, prirent le dîner chez M. Albert Tokarz et le souper chez M. Aurèle Lambert, après quoi il y eut la célébration du mois de Marie et la bénédiction de la croix du chemin. L'exercice se fit en français, en latin et en polonais.

Quand le terrain de M. Lambert fut revendu, leur fille Carméline demanda de garder la croix; elle fut alors déménagée chez Robert et Carméline Bourgeois où elle est encore présentement. Ce terrain appartient maintenant à leur fils Emile Bourgeois.

JUBILE D'ARGENT — SILVER JUBILEE

Jubilé d'Argent de la Paroisse de Guy Silver Jubilee of Guy R. C. Parish

- 10.00 a.m. — Grand'messe pontificale par Son Excellence Mgr Henri Routhier, O.M.I., Vicaire Apostolique de Grouard.
Pontifical High Mass by His Excellency Bishop Henri Routhier, O.M.I., Vicar Apostolic of Grouard.
- 12.00 a.m. — Banquet.
- 2.30 p.m. — Balle au camp et autres jeux.
Base ball, and other games.
- 9.00 p.m. Chants des élèves, danses carrées, tirage des billets, couronnement de la reine.
Concert, Old Folks Dance, Draw, Crowning of the Queen.

MENU

Cocktail "Lacordaire"
Hors d'oeuvre
Olives • celeri • Radis • Laitue
Dinde farcie à l'"Oblate"
arrosée d'une sauce épiscopale
et assaisonnée de bénédictions
Pommes de terre régionales
Petits pois — Verts "Guy"
Câteau des Anges... du Canton
Fruits mûrs des exemples de notre digne Pasteur
Crème glacée à la... "Bourgeoise"
Café et thé à la... "Bouasse"
Liqueurs "Argentées"
A.M.D.G.



Reine/Queen: Elizabeth Tokarz. Princesse/Princess: Cécile Lagacé.

LES SOEURS DE SAINTE-CROIX A GUY: "Educatrices et Ouvrières Paroissiales" (1947 – 1969)

par Soeur Irène Leblanc, c.s.c.

EDUCATRICES

Seize ans après la fondation de la paroisse de Guy arrivent les premières religieuses. Etant donné la pénurie de professeurs pour les écoles de campagne, Monseigneur Ubald Langlois avait demandé au Père Raphaël LeChasseur, o.m.i., curé, de voir à la formation d'un district d'école, à la construction d'une école et d'un dortoir-pensionnat; lui promettant de trouver des religieuses pour mener à bonne fin ce projet d'éducation. Voici le récit que l'on peut lire aux chroniques de cette mission:



Père Lechasseur, o.m.i.



Première école.

"Ce soir du 23 août 1947, arrivent les deux religieuses de Sainte-Croix qui doivent se partager durant un mois la tâche de la restauration de leur logis. Rien n'est plus modeste que cette demeure mais sa pauvreté n'effraie par les missionnaires. Le seul logement disponible est la sacristie de l'église qui jusqu'à ce jour servait de presbytère. En attendant que sa maison soit achevée, le Père Curé habitera la vieille école.

Et quand la classe commencera, où logera-t-on les petits? Dans le presbytère en voie de construction. Deux madriers cloués sur des tréteaux serviront de pupitres. Les fenêtres n'ont pas de châssis, le vent et la pluie y pénètrent à loisir. Mais qu'à cela ne tienne! On a l'habitude de braver toutes les intempéries. Les grands s'installeront dans l'église. Pour pupitres, les sièges; pour chaises, les agenouilloires. Et la discipline, pensez-vous! Oh! pas difficile un brin! On est si content d'aller à l'école qu'on pense qu'à profiter de l'enseignement. Il y a beaucoup de temps perdu à rattraper.

Les trois fondatrices sont:

Soeur Marie-Joseph-de-la-Paix, supérieure, musicienne et maîtresse de français;

Soeur Marie-Godefroy, titulaire de classes;

Soeur Marie-Daniel, aide et maîtresse de maison.



Traversier: Sr Daniel, et Sr Joseph de la Paix.



Sr Godefroy, m. avec un groupe d'élèves: R.1 ??, ??, ??, Antoinette Lemay, Wanda Tokarz, Normand Gagné, Maurice Gagné. R.2 Sr Godefroy, c.s.c., Ernest Gagné, Roseline Gagné.

L'école s'ouvre le 1er octobre 1947, avec une soixantaine d'enfants aux yeux vifs et interrogateurs. Les petits n'ont pas de livres. Une feuille d'emballage en guise de tableau noir. "Rien à l'épreuve de qui veut atteindre son but, n'est-ce pas?"



Bois pour la construction du pensionnat.



Pensionnat en construction.



Pensionnat.

"En mai 1949, commence la construction du pensionnat et le 2 novembre de cette même année, on quitte la sacristie pour le nouveau couvent. N'est-ce pas un peu prématuré? Le troisième étage n'est pas terminé. Il faut loger



Pensionnat.

les élèves au deuxième, à même les pièces réservées aux soeurs. Des fournaies placées ça et là réchauffent tant bien que mal la maison. Et c'est le rude hiver nordique. Aucune armoire. On en improvise avec des boîtes et des malles. De grandes draperies remplacent les portes. Le deuxième plancher n'est posé nulle part; les plafonds ne sont pas recouverts. Tout cela a un aspect sombre et triste. Les ouvriers continuent leur travail, ce qui rend la discipline difficile. Enfin, le troisième étage est prêt pour 1951. Les garçons y montent."

C'est le début pour l'école d'un nombre d'élèves s'accroissant d'année en année. En 1951, on y voit 69 élèves répartis en trois classes; en 1957 le chiffre est de 142 dans une belle école



On s'amuse . . . glissoire.



Glissoire.



Sr David de Cluny, Colette d'Assise, Florence d'Espagne, Thérèse de Castille.



Sr Claude (Jeannette Couillard), Sr Colette d'Assise (Cécile Limoges), Sr Anne des Lys (Rolande Brodeur), Sr. Noël de Milan, Sr Catherine Labouré (Catherine Côté).



R.1 Srs Louise Anna, Raphaëla, Eugène du Sacré Cœur (Madeleine Lauzon). R.2 Srs Guy Joseph, Joseph de la Paix, Cyril.



R.1 Randy Aubin, Raymonde Maisonneuve, Juliette Brulotte, Simonne Johnson, Suzanne Fortier, Amélia Lorenz. R.2 Soeur Guy, CLara Merchant, Janine Dechief, Hélène Gagné, Thérèse Briand, Barbara Reade, Bernadette Bastien, Clifford Merchant. R.3 Jos Merchant, René Gagnon.



Prise d'habit en 1961.



Nouveau couvent, 1963. Propriété de la congrégation Ste-Croix.



1964, Soeurs Marie Margaret Rose, Bernadette Soubirous (Gracia Lauzon), Sr Agnes, Sr Eugène du Sacré Coeur (Madeleine Lauzon), Sr Guy Abbé (Thérèse Michaud).



Partenaires aux cartes: Thérèse Michaud et Gracia Lauzon, Agnes et Irène Leblanc.



Soeur Marie Joseph de la Paix avec son dernier groupe de novices

neuve de quatre classes; en 1960, on y compte 263 élèves dans douze classes. L'apogée se voit en 1965-66, alors que les élèves sont au nombre de 374.

Vint le moment où la centralisation de 1958 et le transport des élèves vidèrent le pensionnat de ses élèves. C'est alors que le couvent de Guy a hébergé le postulat des religieuses de l'Ouest de septembre 1959 à février 1961.

La maison, devenue trop grande pour le personnel religieux, a dû être abandonnée à la fin de l'année scolaire 1961. Il ne resta que deux religieuses à l'école qui voyagèrent pendant un an de Donnelly, en attendant que la Congrégation leur construise une résidence. La petite communauté fut réorganisée en 1963 et vint habiter un joli couvent tout neuf. Hélas faute de sujets, Sainte-Croix a dû abandonner en 1969 ce poste si paisible et si agréable.

Les détails déjà mentionnés disent combien "l'éducation-instruction" tient à coeur aux religieuses de Sainte-Croix. Mais il y a aussi "l'éducation-formation de toute la personne" qui sous-entend toutes leurs entreprises. On n'a qu'à songer au dévouement aux divers organismes propres à chaque heure: la Croisade Eucharistique, la J.E.C., les Concours Oratoires, Festivals de la Bonne Chanson, les Concerts de Noël ou autres, la Journée Sportive des Ecoles, etc, etc.

OUVRIERES PAROISSIALES

Qu'il suffise ici d'énumérer sommairement la collaboration des religieuses aux organisations paroissiales, tels bazar, aide au chœur de chant de l'église, entretien de la sacristie, décoration du sanctuaire, aide à la mission St. Marcel, et la présence bien tangible aux événements heureux ou malheureux de quelque paroissien que ce soit.

HOMMAGE

Hommage aux trois fondatrices ainsi qu'à toutes les trente-huit religieuses de Sainte-



Sr M. Cécilius (Cécile Bourgeois), Sr Florence d'Espagne à la Mission St-Marcel.

Croix qui ont oeuvré, pour un temps plus ou moins long, durant les vingt-deux ans de leur présence à Guy.

Deux des fondatrices sont retournées à la Maison du Père: Soeur Marie-Godefroy, martyre en 1966 et Soeur Marie-Joseph-de-la-Paix en 1972. Signalons que cette dernière est celle qui a donné le plus grand nombre d'années de service à la paroisse de Guy. Il n'est pas surprenant qu'elle y a laissé sa marque: pendant huit ans, elle a été un témoignage vivant de dévouement inlassable, accompli dans l'ombre; une inspiration constante à la prière, à la soumission à la Volonté divine tout en étant sourire perpétuel.

Puisse la présence de ces trente-huit religieuses avoir contribué à inculquer, dans chacun des jeunes qu'elles ont côtoyés, la bantise de la découverte de "son appel propre" au sein du Peuple de Dieu comme témoins de l'amour du Père dans le vécu quotidien, par les voies diverses de père ou mère de famille, de prêtre ou religieuses, ou de serviteur de la société d'aujourd'hui pour bâtir un monde meilleur!

REMERCIEMENTS

Sainte-Croix est reconnaissante à la paroisse de Guy pour les vocations qu'elle lui a données:

*Soeurs Germaine Lambert,
Cécile Bourgeois,
Suzanne Jasmin,
Aimée-Rose Lachance,
Raymonde Maisonneuve.*

En elles, Sainte-Croix a reconnu d'authentiques éducatrices à travers l'enseignement, le service liturgique de la musique, le don de soi comme gardienne de maison et présence auprès de prêtres retirés, malades et le dévouement missionnaire dans le Tiers-Monde.

Sainte-Croix est aussi reconnaissante pour l'accueil reçu de la part des paroissiens de Guy, le support et l'aide prodigués pendant ces vingt-deux ans de présence, tout particulièrement au début de la fondation alors que cela voulait dire l'obole du pauvre à un autre pauvre. Puisse le Seigneur vous le rendre au centuple!

SOEURS DE STE-CROIX

par Soeur Irène Leblanc, c.s.c.

***Soeur Germaine Lambert:** Germaine, première vocation de Guy à Sainte-Croix, se dirige vers cette Communauté religieuse le 16 février 1934 pour y devenir membre perpétuel le 15 août 1941.*

C'est dans l'enseignement que Soeur Germaine se dévoue sans compter pendant tout

Soeur Germaine Lambert,
c.s.c.



près de quarante ans, auprès de la jeunesse de Falher, Lafond, Chauvin, Grande Prairie, Donnelly et Guy tout particulièrement. Tout en faisant bénéficier ses divers milieux et autres de ses talents de professeur, à plusieurs endroits elle y assume en plus la charge d'administration de l'école.

Soeur Germaine ne connaît pas l'oisiveté pendant ses années de retraite, pas plus qu'elle ne l'a connue pendant ses années d'activité: ce sont les services de secrétariat au Club des Pionniers de Donnelly, les visites aux malades, les nombreux dépannages aux personnes âgés pour les conduire chez le médecin ou pour répondre à d'autres demandes du genre. Voilà ce qui occupe ses journées et ses veillées et qui fait son bonheur d'aujourd'hui!

Soeur Cécile Bourgeois:

C'est le 17 août 1942 que Cécile se dirigea vers les Soeurs de Sainte-Croix où elle devint professe perpétuelle le 15 août 1950.

Soeur Cécile Bourgeois,
c.s.c.



De 1945 à 1970, on la voit se dévouer à Falher, Chauvin, Grande Prairie, Donnelly et Girouxville, partageant dans ces diverses

paroisses ses talents de musicienne un peu exceptionnels. Vers les années 1970, les symptômes de la sclérose en plaques se détectèrent assez clairement, l'obligeant à une vie plus ralentie à la Maison Provinciale d'Edmonton. En 1974, elle fut admise au Foyer Youville de St. Albert et en 1977 était transférée à l'Hôpital Auxiliaire St. Joseph d'Edmonton. De là, elle manifesta le désir de se rendre à Montréal, à l'infirmierie de sa Communauté où elle ne cesse d'édifier son entourage par sa courageuse acceptation de l'immobilité complète dans un lit de malade.

Soeur Aimée-Rose Lachance:

Le 16 août 1949, Aimée-Rose Lachance, fille de M. et Mme Fortunat Lachance, s'acheminait vers les Soeurs de Ste-Croix. Elle y prononçait ses vœux perpétuels le 15 août 1956.

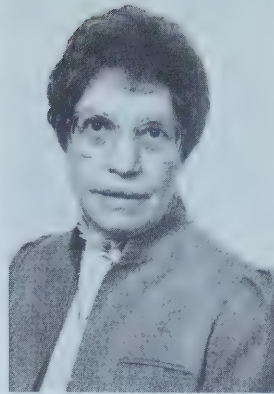


Sr Aimée-Rose Lachance,
C.S.C.

Soeur Aimée-Rose fut l'habile cuisinière, le "Cordon Bleu" par excellence apprécié des religieuses dans plusieurs de leurs missions en Alberta. Pendant quelques années, elle fut en charge d'une petite garderie d'enfants à Edmonton. En 1975, elle se dirigea vers St-Norbert, Manitoba où elle se dévoua dans la Maison de Retraite Villa Maria jusqu'en 1981. Depuis ce temps, elle travaille à la Maison des Oblats retraités de Casa Bonita à Winnipeg, où elle leur prodigue de nombreux services soit à la couture, soit aux soins des prêtres malades.

Soeur Thérèse Jasmin:

Entrée à Sainte-Croix le 14 février 1953, Thérèse s'y engagea définitivement le 15 août 1960. Après s'être donnée à l'enseignement en Alberta pour plus de vingt ans, elle se rendit à Lachute, dans la province du Québec, pour quelques années de ressourcement. De là, c'est au Maroua, Cameroun Nord d'Afrique, que Thérèse se dévoue en pays de mission.



Soeur Thérèse Jasmin,
C.S.C.

Depuis 1984, Soeur Thérèse fait partie d'une équipe pour retraites dirigées à Saint-Boniface, Manitoba. C'est ainsi qu'elle déploie ses talents et les mets au service du prochain.

Soeur Raymonde Maisonneuve

par Marcel et Liliane Maisonneuve

Raymonde est entrée dans la Congrégation des Soeurs de Sainte-Croix au mois d'août 1974. De 1976 à 1978 elle est retournée à l'Université où elle a obtenu un Baccalauréat en Travail Social. Elle a ensuite été employée par Edmonton Public School Board comme assistante-sociale pendant trois ans.



Sr Raymonde Maisonneuve, C.S.C.

En 1983 Raymonde a passé une année d'études à Montréal et puis le 18 juillet 1984 elle est retournée à Edmonton où elle prononça ses vœux perpétuels.

Raymonde a passé ses dix dernières années à Haïti comme directrice d'une école au Borgne, ensuite comme professeur au secondaire à Cap Haïtien. Elle se dévoue comme missionnaire et éducatrice en poursuivant la philosophie des Soeurs de Sainte-Croix.

CIMETIERE DE ST. GUY

Adelaide
Charest
1878-1960

John
Charest
1882-1956

William
Bulotte
1891-1977

Frank
Bulotte
1882-1959

Armande
Bulotte
1882-1983

Hermine
Bulotte
1895-1947

Joseph
Bulotte
1861-1943

Henri-Louis
Bulotte
1894-1942

Albert
Deleage
1909-1980

Joseph
Drouin
1895-1995

Armande
Drouin
1925-1975

Lionel
Drouin
1909-1977

Antoinette
Desbarnais
1915-1984

Joseph
Desbarnais
1911-1966

Marie-Anne
Morin
1923-1983

Gérard
Morin
1917-1983

Frank
Harvey
1896-1966

Alice
Harvey
1895-1933

Thomas
Harvey
1861-1933

Angèle
Turcotte
1864-1938

Jessie
Vandal
1913-1938

Edward
Rickard
1859-1942

Lucy
Rickard
1883-1967

Hervé
Johnson
1901-1976

Emile
Johnson
1874-1959

Anna
Johnson
1878-1959

Walter
Chalbos
1937-1952

John
Chalbos
1900-1966

Joseph
Johnson
1910-1985

Rita
Bestien
1917-1981

Henri
Johnson
1918-1979

Gérard
Johnson
1915-1975

Paul
Johnson
1923-1984

Suzanne
Jassin
1894-1980

Sébastien
Jassin
1889-1975

Andrew
Vogel
1906-1973

Hervé
Dupont
1901-1970

Juliana
Minaorich
1894-1976

John
Minaorich
1892-1966

Rose De Lina
Percharon
1893-1962

Henri
Percharon
1900-1962

Rich
Gosselin
1935-1961

Benoit
Meyer
1891-1972

Edgar
Tremblay
1927-1984

Romuald
St. Amant
1928-1975

Debbie
Koon
1958-1975

Ovide
Gendron
1919-1985

James
Gruber
1903-1980

S E

Malire
Drouin
1912-1984

Thérèse
Drouin
1928-1979

Fernand
Drouin
1940-1973

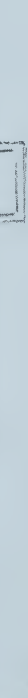
Pauline
Drouin
1894-1957

Marie
Drouin
1904-1971

Thérèse
Drouin
1916-1952

Aimé
Cloutier
1889-1957

Marie-Anne
Cloutier
1892-1960



ENTRANCE

ST. MARY'S GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH

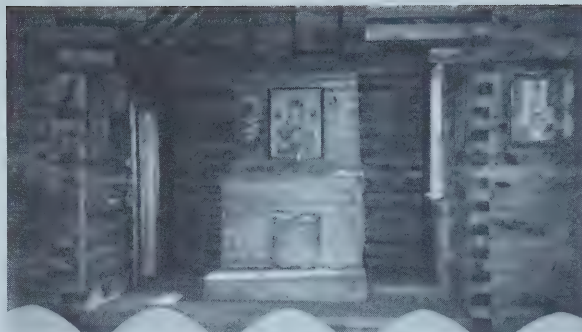
Tammie-Lyne Aubin interviewed Mrs. Mary Winnicky

Whenever a Ukrainian priest visited the area in the early 30's they stayed at Mr. Edward Rickard's home but held religious services in Mr. John Winnicky Sr.'s home.



St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church.

In 1939 Mr. John Winnicky Sr. with the help of his four sons, John, Joseph, Peter, Michael and neighbors, Mr. Moreau and Mr. Sawchyn built a log church on the north west corner of N.W. 16-75-21-W5 on land donated by Mr. W. Saw-



The interior of the St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church.

chyn. (This land is now owned by Mr. Roger Winnicky.) Father Hrynshyn was the first priest to celebrate mass in the new church.

The church, a simple one-room building still standing today contains an altar, two pews each sitting six persons, a two person bench for the priest and altar boy and a wood heater. A few religious pictures adorn the wall.

Behind the little church, the family graveyard is still being used today. Mr. Jos Winnicky who passed away January 2, 1987 was laid to rest there by his mother and father's side.

The weathered little church has not been used since 1958 but still attests to the pioneer Ukrainians' Faith.

CHURCH OF GOD



Church of God. R.1 Kisc Duglosz, Ferd Shybunia, John Abramovich, Convention sign, Sergie Shybunia, Peter Zesko, Rene Dlugosz. R.2 Jenny Zesko, Nina Shybunia, Mrs. Dlugosz, Mrs. Abramovich with baby Pauline, Mrs. Romaniuk, Mrs. Shybunia, Nick Shybunia, ??, Mrs. Luberd, Mrs. Zesko with baby Vicky, Luba Shybunia. R.3 John Romaniuk, Alex Abramovich, John Zesko, Andrew Zesko, Mr. Luberd. R.4 Minister Rev. Harris (See Mr. Lusch's story).

BUREAUX DE POSTES — POST OFFICES

<i>Forestview</i> (NAME OF OFFICE)		<i>Peace River Alta</i> <i>Peace River Alberta</i> (ELECTORAL DISTRICT AND PROVINCE)		ENG.
CH. H. X. S. T. J. O. U. E. M.	DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT— <i>1-12-1931</i>		OFFICE CLOSED— <i>2-6-53</i>	F.R.
	OFFICE RE-OPENED—			RUR.
	CHANGES IN NAME			AL
	FORMER NAME—		DATE OF CHANGE—	SUB.
LOCATION <i>NW 1/4 19-75-20-W 5M</i>		NAME OF POSTMASTER <i>Joseph Leon Marc Aurèle Lambert</i>	MILITARY STATUS	POST.
			DATE OF BIRTH <i>13-1-83</i>	STN.
			DATE OF APPOINTMENT <i>1-12-31</i>	SUM.
			DATE OF VACANCY <i>12-11-52</i>	WIN.
			CAUSE OF VACANCY <i>Resignation (2-6-53) closed</i>	ACT.
BAY W P C M J S A		FOREST VIEW -15-75-20-5 Heavily forested area when the post office opened. Marc A Lambert was the only Postmaster.		ACT.
		1.12.1931-2.6.1953		ACT.

FOREST VIEW



Bureau de Poste Forest View. M. Aurèle Lambert fut le seul maître de poste en plus de transporter le courrier de 1931 à 1952. / Forest View Post Office in Mr. A. Lambert's home.



Premier moyen de transport pour le courrier: "Bennett" tiré par les chevaux, trajet de Falher à Forest View, distance de 20 milles. / Flat tire on "Bennett" wagon used to transport the mail.

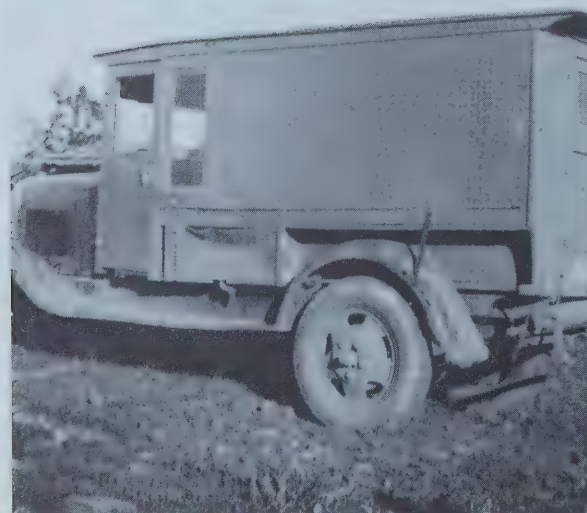


Deuxième moyen de transport, première auto de M. Aurèle Lambert. / The mail is now transported in style.



"Caboose" servant de transport en hiver. / Caboose used in winter.

BALLATER



Troisième moyen de transport, meilleure protection pour une plus grande quantité de courrier. / Better equipped to transport a larger quantity of mail.



Ben Demers and Jos Morin in front of Jos Morin's home which served as Post Office and store. / Ballater Post Office and store.

*New card made up
16-12-63
copied from old.*

CHANGE OF POSTMASTERS

Ballater

Peace River

412

(ELECTORAL DISTRICT AND PROVINCE)

S T A T E S T R I C T U R E S T R I C T U R E S T R I C T U R E S	DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	1-4-30	OFFICE CLOSED	14-2-1967
	OFFICE RE-OPENED			
CHANGES IN NAME				
	FORMER NAME	Guy	DATE OF CHANGE	16-9-37

LOCATION	NAME OF POSTMASTER	MILITARY STATUS	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	DATE OF VACANCY	CAUSE OF VACANCY
S.E. 4-76-21, W5M	Frederick William Caron			1-4-30	24-11-31	Res.
N.E. 9-76-21, W5M	Edwin Brennan	242		6-7-33	Dec. 38	Res.
S.E. 16-76-21-5	Joseph Morin		14-6-09	10-1-39	Acting	
	Joseph Morin		14-6-09	6-2-39	16-12-63	Res. Closed

BALLATER	16-76-21-5	16.8.1937-14.2.1961
Named after a town in Scotland. Postmasters; Fred Caron, Ed Brennan, Jās. Morin.		



Ballater store, Post Office and Living quarters, Mrs. Rollande Morin in doorway.

GUY POST OFFICE



Wanda Tokarz, Roland Lagace, Germaine Brulotte in front of Post Office in Leo Lagace's home.



Leo Lagace postmaster with baby Roland, Leona and Cecile in front of Mr. Robert's store.

Guy (NAME OF OFFICE) *Force River Alta.* (ELECTORAL DISTRICT AND PROVINCE)

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT— *Aug. 16, 1937* OFFICE CLOSED—

OFFICE RE-OPENED—

CHANGES IN NAME

FORMER NAME DATE OF CHANGE

NAME OF POSTMASTER	MILITARY STATUS	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	DATE OF VACANCY	CAUSE OF VACANCY
<i>Arthur H. Robert</i>		<i>15-10-81</i>	<i>16-8-37</i>	<i>17-5-44</i>	<i>Resignation</i>
<i>Mrs. Della Benoit</i>		<i>30-11-97</i>	<i>1-6-44</i>	<i>Acting</i>	
<i>Mrs. Della Benoit</i>		<i>30-11-97</i>	<i>30-6-44</i>	<i>14-2-46</i>	<i>Resignation</i>
<i>Cecil Wilburforce Ellis</i>	<i>O.A.S.</i>	<i>15-4-01</i>	<i>19-2-46</i>	<i>Acting</i>	
<i>Cecil Wilburforce Ellis</i>	<i>O.A.S.</i>	<i>15-4-01</i>	<i>6-6-46</i>	<i>4-9-46</i>	
<i>Mrs. Anna Medora Lagace</i>		<i>11-1-1918</i>	<i>15-6-46</i>	<i>Acting</i>	
<i>Mrs. Medora Anna Lagace</i>		<i>11-1-1918</i>	<i>4-1-47</i>	<i>30-4-58</i>	<i>Res.</i>
<i>Mr. Joseph Dancause</i>		<i>6-3-1912</i>	<i>29-5-53</i>	<i>Acting</i>	
<i>Joseph Dancause</i>		<i>6-3-1912</i>	<i>17-2-59</i>	<i>2-1-75</i>	<i>Retired</i>
<i>Mrs. Gemma L. Tokarz</i>		<i>25-5-44</i>	<i>3-1-75</i>		

NATURE OF PREMISES

Private Building GUY 1-76-21-5 1.4.1930

Bishop Joseph Guy 1883-1950. Vicar Apostolic of Gruard.

LETTERS - FORWARD

RATE	DATE OF CHANGE	REMARKS
3¢ per 1 ounce or fraction	July 1, 1897	
3¢ per 1 ounce or fraction	April 1, 1898	
3¢ per ounce or fraction	1899	
2¢ per ounce or fraction	Jan. 1, 1899	
3¢ first ounce or fraction each additional ounce or fraction	April 15, 1915	War Tax of 1¢ added
2¢ per ounce or fraction	July 1, 1926	War Tax deleted from forward rate
3¢ first ounce or fraction 2¢ each additional ounce or fraction	July 1, 1931	1¢ War Tax reimposed on forward letters
4¢ first ounce or fraction 2¢ each additional ounce or fraction	April 1, 1943	A further War Tax of 1¢ was added
4¢ first ounce or fraction 2¢ each additional ounce or fraction	July 1, 1951	War Tax incorporated in letter rates
5¢ first ounce or fraction 3¢ each additional ounce or fraction	April 1, 1954	

NOTE: All up Service

Providing air service

Not exceeding 1 oz. - started
up to 8 oz.

July 1, 1948
April 1, 1954

Guy P.O.

Smoky River Express, Wednesday, March 20, 1964

The mail still gets through

by Chris Poole

Guy Post Office and general store may have been razed by fire, but Guy residents haven't missed a

single day's delivery of mail.

Fire broke out in the rear of the general store on March 8th, possibly the result of an electrical fault near the freezers, and rapidly engulfed the entire building.

Firefighters rushing in from Falher to combat the blaze said they could see the flames from two miles away and agreed that there was nothing they could do to save the store. Consequently they concentrated their efforts on preserving the neighboring home of John and Gemma Tokarz, the postmaster/storekeeper.

Low water pressure in the hamlet's water supply system didn't help firefighting efforts, but MD Administrator Lou Turcotte said this was no fault of the system. The fire engine pump is capable of drawing water from the system four times faster than the system is able to supply it through the four-inch mains which serve the small community. "But it wouldn't have made any difference anyway."

said a firefighter. "The building was gone before we got there."

Most of the post boxes were empty, said a resident, because the majority of those served by the Guy Postal Station collect their mail regularly and the daily mail truck had not yet arrived when the fire broke out.

When it did arrive, the mail was sorted and prepared for collection in the Caisse Populaire in Guy. This building was, in fact, the original post office for the community, services only being transferred when the general store was bought and adapted for its multiple functions by John and Gemma Tokarz.

With the current attitude of Canada Post to small rural post offices making reconstruction will be erected to replace the burned postal section of the general store, but there's a problem which John and Gemma Tokarz have deferred until their return from a long-planned vacation.



R.1 Roseanne Brulotte, Antoine Lagace, Jeannine Brulotte.
R.2 Cecile & Roland Lagace and Yvonne Hebert by the Guy Post Office.



Post Office located in John and Gemma Tokarz's store which was destroyed by fire, March 8, 1987.

MAGASINS

by Gilberte Lemay et Cecile Aubin

Le premier magasin à Guy fut une cabane en bois rond construite par M. MÉRIL Lussier, au printemps 1932. C'était l'époque de la construction de l'église paroissiale et plusieurs hommes travaillaient à cette entreprise. M. Lussier, originaire de Donnelly, avait travaillé à Edmonton dans un magasin et vit le besoin d'un magasin dans la région. La bâtisse terminée il fit sa demeure dans la partie arrière et se servit de l'autre partie pour établir son commerce. Mais ce pauvre homme devait transporter sa marchandise de Donnelly, une distance de treize milles. Souvent il faisait ce parcours à pieds ou en voiture avec des gens qui y allaient par affaires.

En 1935, M. Arthur Robert, hôtelier de Donnelly, vendit son commerce à Donnelly et acheta le magasin de M. Lussier. Il construisit une ralonge à la partie nord pour y faire son logis. Mme Robert transportait, ordinairement deux fois la semaine, la marchandise de Donnelly avec une paire de chevaux tirant une démo-crate. Ce voyage prenait toute la journée. En 1935 M. Robert obtint le Bureau de Poste qu'il installa dans son magasin. Les gens venaient chercher leur courrier, faire leurs emplettes et piquer une jasette. Plusieurs personnes ont travaillé pour les Robert: Léo et Médora Lagacé, Rita Johnson, Marguerite Forcier et Rose Lagacé, une nièce. C'était aussi le lieu des rencontres après la messe du dimanche. En 1942 M. et Mme Robert allaient rejoindre leur fils, Valmar, qui venait d'avoir un grave accident à Prince Rupert. Pendant deux ans, leur neveu et nièce, M. et Mme Léo Lagacé, les remplacèrent au magasin et au Bureau de Poste.



Meril Lussier's store. Aimé Lemay and friend.



Mr. Arthur Robert, 2nd storeowner, with Leona, Cecile and Roland Lagace.



Médora Lagacé, Rose Lagacé, Napoléon Brulotte and Alma Brulotte by first store in Guy in 1932.



Joe Dancause store opened in 1947. Residence and gas pump.



Ramona Lusch outside the Dancause General Store in 1952.



Willie Brulotte's store, blacksmith shop, gas pump (1960).

A leur retour ils vendirent l'entreprise à M. Aurèle Benoit qui agrandit la structure du côté est cette fois. Cette section servit de salle de billard. Mme Benoit aida beaucoup son mari, soit au magasin ou au Bureau de Poste. En 1945, un nouveau venu, beau-frère de M. Arthur Gosselin, devient le nouveau propriétaire. M. Jack Ellis devint aussi le maître de poste pour un an seulement mais continua de gérer son magasin jusqu'en 1947. Le Bureau de Poste fut transféré dans la maison de Léo Lagacé (1945 -1948.) Le magasin et la demeure de M. Ellis furent achetés par M. Gabriel Noël à son arrivée à Guy et ce fut la fin de ce magasin.

Après avoir vendu sa ferme à McLennan M. Jos Dancause et sa famille vinrent s'installer à Guy et ouvrirent un nouveau magasin général. Pendant trente ans ils servirent ainsi la population de Guy. Après le décès de M. Léo Lagacé en 1958 ils obtinrent le Bureau de Poste, qu'ils tinrent jusqu'à leur retraite en 1974. Le magasin ainsi que la résidence furent vendus à M. G. Paradis, apiculteur de la région qui en fit un entrepôt pour son commerce de miel.

En 1944, voyant que la population augmentait, M. Willie Brulotte ouvrit lui aussi un magasin à l'autre bout du village, tout près de sa nouvelle demeure. Il commença en plus une boutique de forge où M. Brulotte s'occupait tandis que sa femme gérait le magasin. Ceci jusqu'en 1961 alors qu'ils vendirent à un jeune couple Québécois, M. et Mme Yvon Bouchard. La même année le feu détruisit complètement leur magasin mais leur demeure fut épargnée. Ils retournèrent au Québec après ce malheur.

Ce fut au tour de John Wawrzonek de tenter fortune; il acheta l'emplacement et reconstruisit le magasin. Avec sa femme, Claudette, ils gérèrent cette entreprise jusqu'en 1968 alors qu'ils vendirent à M. et Mme Paul Drouin pour retourner sur leur ferme.

Le 16 mai 1976 M. et Mme Lucien Paradis



Medora Lagacé, Willie Brulotte, Doreen Halwa in Mr. Brulotte's store.



Mrs. Willie Brulotte.

venant de Spirit River, AB., achetèrent à leur tour. Ils rendirent de très bons services à la population jusqu'en 1983, alors qu'ils durent abandonner à cause de santé. M. et Mme John Tokarz devinrent les nouveaux propriétaires jusqu'au 8 mars 1987, alors que le feu détruisit de fond en comble le magasin et le bureau de poste. Heureusement que huit mois plus tard, Yves et Kathy Mercier ont construit un nouveau magasin sur le même emplacement.



Store owned by Mr. & Mrs. John Tokarz at the time of the fire March 8, 1987.

STORES

1932: Mr. Meril Lussier built a log house (seen on cover of book) to serve as residence and store. He had to transport groceries from Donnelly – 13 miles.

1935: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Robert moved from Donnelly where they were hotel-keepers. They added living quarters to the north side of the building. They obtained the Guy Post Office in 1935.

1943: Mr. and Mrs. Aurèle Benoit. An addition built on the east side of the building was used as billiard hall. The Post Office is in the store. He also built a new house by the store.

1945: Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ellis operated the Post Office for one year; then it was moved to Mrs. Medora Lagacé's house. Jack Ellis continued to operate the store and started an upholstery business in the billiard hall.

Mr. Ben May operated the store for a very short time. He also operated a sawmill in the town.

Mr. and Mrs. Noel bought the house and the store which they used for their first home when they arrived from Quebec.

Second Store:

1947 – 1974: Mr. and Mrs. Dancause sold their farm in McLennan and moved to Guy to build and manage a store east of the first store. In 1974, when they retired, they sold the buildings to Mr. G. Paradis, beekeeper.

Third Store:

1944: Mr. and Mrs. Willie Brulotte built a new store and a house at the west end of the hamlet. He also obtained gas pumps and started a blacksmith shop.

1961: Mr. and Mrs. Yvon Bouchard came from eastern Canada and opened a cafeteria in the store, which was completely destroyed by fire in the same fall it was bought.

1961: Mr. and Mrs. John Wawrzonek rebuilt the store and ran it for seven years when they moved to their farm.

1968: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Drouin owned the store for eight years.

1976: Mr. and Mrs. Paradis came from Spirit River, AB. The community was sorry to see them leave in 1983 for Edmonton, AB., due to ill health.

1983: Mr. and Mrs. John Tokarz also looked after the Post Office located in the store. It was with sorrow that many people of the area saw the store and post office completely destroyed by fire on March 8th, 1987. The Post Office was in operation again two days later in the small building housing the Credit Union Bank and a new store was built and is operated by Yves and Kathy Mercier.

LE MOUVEMENT COOPERATEUR – LA CAISSE POPULAIRE

par Cécile Aubin

Le 13 mars 1940 le journal La Survivance fait ce reportage:

“Nous apprenons avec plaisir que l'étude coopérative est lancée depuis quelque temps dans la paroisse de Guy. A l'instigation du

dévoué pasteur, M. l'abbé P. Gagnon, plusieurs cercles d'étude pour adultes ont été fondés ou sont en formation. Déjà on commence à requérir du matériel, brochures, catéchismes, etc. Et l'on va se mettre à étudier "La Coopérative," selon Hannam.

Le 6 mars dernier une réunion d'étude se tenait chez M. Emile Johnson; un autre cercle fonctionne sous l'égide de M. Laurent Hébert; un troisième va se tenir chez M. Aurèle Benoit. D'autres encore sont en perspective."

Après quelques années d'étude, la Caisse Populaire est fondée à Guy le 29 février 1944 sous le nom Guy Savings and Credit Union - charte d'incorporation no 138.

M. Laurent Hébert, employé du Gouvernement albertain aide à l'organisation: il prépare

les documents nécessaires pour obtenir la charte et prend les signatures des membres fondateurs:

Chaque membre paie la taxe d'entrée de \$1.00 et chacun prend une part de \$5.00. Il y a élection afin de se partager les fonctions: cinq directeurs, trois membres sur le comité de crédit et trois membres sur le comité de surveillance. Les réunions se tiendront le dernier lundi de chaque mois. M. l'abbé Paul Gagnon, est nommé secrétaire-trésorier et le bureau sera au presbytère.

Le 6 mai 1945 eut lieu la première assemblée annuelle sous la présidence de M. Edmond Labbé. La Caisse a un ans d'existence et compte vingt-cinq membres. L'objectif de l'année est d'atteindre trente membres et de stimuler la petite épargne. On préfère dix hommes appor-

Each of the undersigned is of the full age of twenty-one years.

Rev. Paul Gagnon, Guy. will be the
provisional secretary of the proposed credit union.

Dated at Guy this 29th
day of February 19 44.

Signatures of Witnesses	Signatures of Applicants
	<u>Walter Hebert</u>
	<u>Ernest Gagnon</u>
	<u>Léa Gagnon</u>
	<u>Edmond Gagnon</u>
	<u>A. Benoit</u>
	<u>Art Gagnon</u>
	<u>Laurent Gagnon</u>
	<u>Aurèle Benoit</u>
	<u>W. Brubelle</u>
	<u>Abbé Paul Gagnon</u>
<u>Laurent Hébert</u>	

tant \$10.00 par mois d'épargne qu'à un seul apportant \$100.00 par mois bien que le montant soit le même; on préfère également dix prêts de \$50.00 à un seul prêt de \$500.00; voilà l'esprit de la Caisse. Ce n'est pas de faire de l'argent mais de s'entraider en esprit de charité.

Election de 1945: M. Edmond Labbé, président; M. Aurèle Lambert, vice-président; MM. Arthur Gosselin, Joseph Lagacé, Armand Gagné, directeurs. Comité de surveillance: MM. Wilfrid Bisson, Maurice Beauchamp, Raoul Lambert et secrétaire-trésorier M. Walter Hébert.

Au cours des années beaucoup de personnes se sont impliquées dans le bon fonctionnement de la Caisse et ce, pendant de nombreuses années: Mmes Eva Dancause et Edwidge Noël comme secrétaire-trésorière. MM. Prosper Hébert, Albert Mercier, Roger Houle, Réal Lechasseur, Benoit Aubin et plus récemment Charles Mackell, Jules Aubin et Marcel Jasmin.

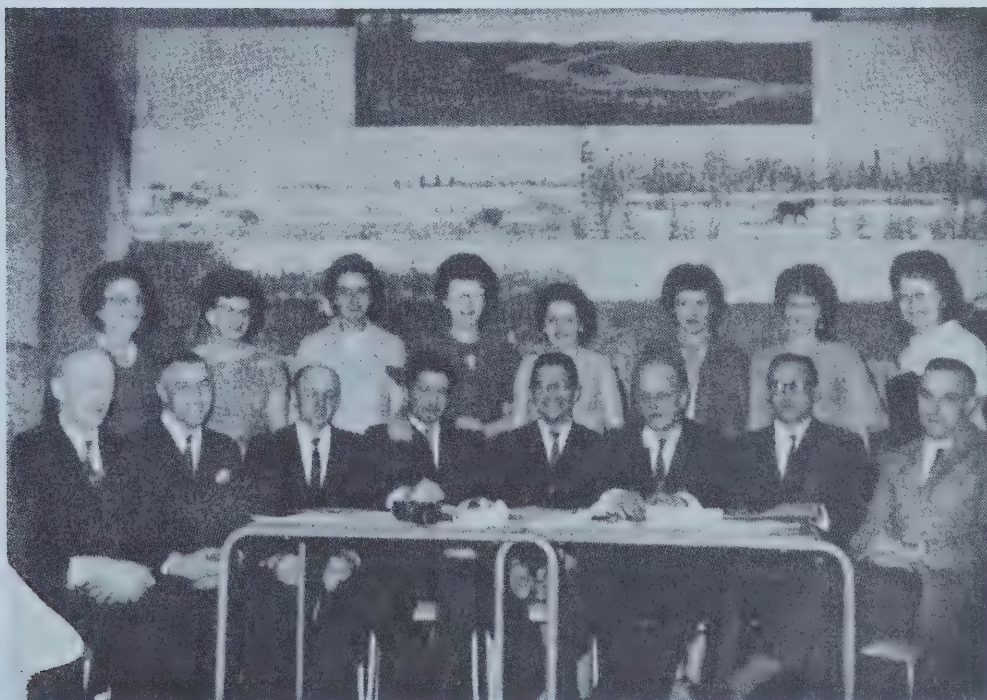
Il faut ajouter qu'au début le bureau de la Caisse était situé au presbytère et par la suite,



Credit Union building.

pendant bien des années, dans la demeure de M. Gabriel Noël; ceci jusqu'au temps où M. Noël déménagea une petite bâtisse sur la rue princi-

PAGE 8 THE RECORD-GAZETTE, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1967



Each year the board of directors of the Girouxville Savings and Credit Union assemble with their wives to enjoy a "get-together" and supper, which this year was served by Mrs. Oliva Dufresne at the Girouxville Parish Hall. Members of the board are seen here, with their wives standing behind them.

From left are Mr. and Mrs. Real Lechasseur, Mr. and Mrs. Benoit Aubin, Mr. and Mrs. H.P. Blanchette, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Girard, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Houle, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Lamoureux, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dumont, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Emile St. Arnaud.

pale près de son logis. Mme Noël vaque donc aux occupations de sa famille tout en servant le public comme secrétaire-trésorière et cela à toute heure du jour.

Pendant les années 50 on introduit aussi les Caisses Scolaires. Les étudiants, peu importe l'âge, sont encouragés à déposer leurs épargnes. Les affaires se font dans l'école même sous la surveillance de professeurs et plus tard les élèves ont la permission de se rendre à la Caisse du village à l'heure du dîner.

Le 31 mars 1966 la Caisse Populaire de Guy s'est amalgamée avec celle de Girouxville sous le nom de Girouxville Savings and Credit Union Ltd. A partir de ce temps, le gérant de Girouxville vient à Guy chaque mercredi s'occuper des transactions des membres.

La Caisse Populaire devenue Credit Union est toujours au service de la population de Guy, le mercredi, dans la même petite bâtisse sur la rue principale.

Depuis le feu, le 8 mars 1987, qui détruisit le magasin général et le bureau de poste, la petite bâtisse sert aussi comme bureau de poste.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Excerpts from The Record Gazette,
March 22, 1957*

HAILING FROM GUY, a comparatively newly settled district south of Falher, the pictured trio

are executive members of one of the newest Chambers of Commerce in the Peace River Country. Leo Lagacé, secretary-treasurer; J. Dancause, vice-president and Charles Gagnon, first councillors have been in office since the body was formed late in April 1957. Land around Guy, they say, had mostly been settled within the last ten years and agriculture is the basic industry of the community. Project currently nearing fruition is provision of a rural telephone system in the district, with the line from Falher central almost completed but with phones still to be installed. With the Donnelly-Valleyview cut-off passing through the district they have been staunch advocates of early completion and last summer backed the Peace River Chamber's resolution asking that the building program be speeded. Last week the pictured men from Guy travelled to Peace River to attend the annual banquet of the Chamber of Commerce.

THE GUY SPORTS COMMITTEE

by Avis Gagné

The Guy Sports Committee did not officially come into being until 1964, when it was registered with the Societies Act for Alberta, however unofficially it had been an active institution for 20 years before that.

In the early 1940's the community was home to many talented ball players who were eager to

Form Chamber at Guy



Chambre de Commerce. premier conseil de la Chambre de Commerce de Guy formé à l'automne 1957. Leur projet est de compléter au plus tôt la ligne de téléphone rurale et l'installation des téléphones. Ce conseil est composé de Charles Gagnon, premier conseiller, Jos Dancause, président, et Léo Lagacé, secrétaire-trésorier.

form a team to play against neighboring teams. Softball was the game of choice and at that time only the catcher was allowed to wear a glove. That was a handy rule indeed, no one could afford to buy a glove anyway. The members of the team passed the hat amongst themselves and came up with more than enough money to buy all the equipment the team required. Fund raising was much simpler when not much was required of the funds; \$10.00 bought 2 balls, 2 bats, 1 catcher's mask and left \$1.32 in the kitty. Thus the first sports association consisted of players on the softball team, no meetings, minutes, financial reports or executives required!

Playing ball was a great activity for summer, but the winter months seemed interminably long, and with a growing population of children in the area, a skating rink seemed to be a great idea. Now building and maintaining the rink would require much more effort and organization than was currently required for the ball teams, so in 1957 the "unofficial" Guy Sports Association was formed.

Unfortunately a couple of mini-disasters have left us with only disjointed and incomplete records of those early years. A house fire in the home of John and Gemma Tokarz and a flood in the church basement both took care of a good part of the minutes and financial records kept by the Association. The attempt to piece together the history of the Association has left us with some questionable dates and unavoidable gaps, however we hope to provide a fair account of the activities through the years. The meager written records which remain have been supplemented for this account by the memories of several people who were active within the Association. We hope you will indulge any errors or omissions in the following account.

The first skating rink was built in 1959 on the northwest corner of the schoolyard. Generous donations of lumber by Raoul Lambert and Honore Maisonneuve and the efforts of nearly two dozen volunteers made for quick completion of the rink. A shack borrowed from Raoul Lambert provided shelter for the skaters. The school children were invited to use the rink during the dinner breaks and newly formed hockey team, The Guy Bruins, held practices and games on evenings and weekends. Roma Boivin was hired by the Association as caretaker for the rink and to supervise the school children and he was paid a salary of \$50.00 per month. In 1961 a new skating rink was built on land purchased from Raoul Lambert. This rink was much more complete in that it boasted of not one but two dressing rooms with a single penalty box in between.

The story goes that if things got too hot in the penalty box when it was occupied by members of opposing teams, the offending athletes were simply dumped into the snowbank behind the box to cool off.

A good community group provides varied entertainment and this the association did as evidence by the minutes of a meeting held October 8, 1962. A rooster shoot was planned for the 15th of the month, with donations of 17 roosters promised by members present. Also donated were the shells by Jos Dancause and the use of guns by Henry Wawrzonek and Richard Bourgeois. Whether the contestants shot poorly or the guns did we'll never know, but the organization estimated they would require 1000 targets for the event and evidently had several roosters left over as they were later sold. On December 22 of the next year, 2000 targets were on hand. A grand total of \$177.63 was netted at this shoot, bringing the total of the Association's cash to \$221.31.

Evidently financial management at that time differed little from that of today. To quote from the minutes of the next meeting, "After a certain period of discussion it was passed that with the money of the turkey shoot we should at first pay the amount we owe at the Credit Union, borrow again, and then pay the other bills."

Adding to the funds of the Association each month was an entry in the journal titled simply, "Pass the Hat". That hat saw many hands over the next few months.

The tradition of the Hat was lost to the system of membership dues for the rink usage in 1964. That was the year that the members decided to purchase hockey sticks for the Bruins. Along with maintaining the rink and paying tournament fees the accounts of the association suffered greatly and by July of 1964 only \$0.12 remained in the pot. An urgent drive for rink memberships must have followed as by the end of the year the Association was in possession of \$121.35. No more hockey sticks were purchased by the Association.

A meeting held December 15, 1964 was called in order to "fill out an application form concerning our registration to the government under the Societies Act." The complete application was subsequently approved and the Guy Sports Association was officially born.

In the early 60's the dressing rooms at the rink burnt and arrangements were made with the High Prairie School Division to purchase a one room school for the sum of \$1.00. The school-cum-dressingroom was moved next to the rink

in December in 1965 and the Skaters again had shelter.

The Association continued to support teams, sponsor social functions and Fair Queen candidates and held several benefits for local families who had lost their homes to fire. In August of 1970 a cookbook containing favorite recipes of the area residents was published and many of our finest cooks still treasure battered copies of that book.

The Guy Sports committee (as it had become), sponsored their first New Year's Eve Dine and Dance on December 31, 1975. The gymnasium in Langlois School was rented for the occasion and has continued to be the home to this annual celebration in Guy.

In 1979 the High Prairie School Division closed the Langlois School due to low enrollment and the Sports Committee applied that September to purchase the building for a community center. The School Division replied that it would be several years before the property could be disposed of but that there was a definite possibility of the sports committee acquiring it. In anticipation of the future acquisition of the building the committee set to work to raise money for improvements to the property. With the full support of the community, several thousand dollars was raised by hard work and determination over the next few years. In February 1980 the Society was incorporated under the name of Guy Sports Committee.

In 1980 the Committee applied for and received \$3000 from the Alberta 75th Anniversary Grant with which tables and chairs for the community hall were purchased.

A second cookbook was arranged and printed by the Committee to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Guy Parish in 1981. That summer was a very busy one for members of the Committee as they helped to prepare for the homecoming celebrations.

On November 25th, 1982, the School Division agreed to sell the school building and 2 lots for the token sum of \$1.00. The only condition that the Division applied to the purchase was that the property remain in use as a community center and that if the Sports Committee should ever dissolve and wish to sell, the Division would have first option to buy.

As soon as the school was purchased by the Committee, the entire community was buzzing with plans for renovations and activities for the center. Thousands of hours of hard work by Committee and community members have been donated in order to raise the necessary funds and complete the renovations. Over the past 4 years,

\$55,000 has been put into improvements in the building, and though dollars purchased the materials, good old fashioned community spirit put the materials to use. From the inside out the center has been almost completely redone.

The entire interior has been repainted and the gymnasium floor refinished. The center boasts of a kitchen, complete with cottage curtains which is praised by the visitors as the finest in the area. A large room has been developed for small gatherings and meetings. An entirely new heating system has been installed and the center has been hooked up to the municipal water and sewage service. The exterior of the building has also had a facelift.

In recent years the Annual Picnic has seen a revival. The day is filled with slowpitch ball games between pick-up teams and the friendly rivalries and often bumbled plays make for an entertaining and often humorous afternoon. The hungry players and spectators then dig into a succulent supper to fortify themselves for an evening of dancing. The committee center is also home to the Annual Church Bazaar, New Year's Ball and Harvest Ball. The center is available and has been well used by the community for weddings, meetings, workshops and gatherings.

In November of 1985, the Sports Committee held the Grand Opening of the Community Center. The celebration was well attended by local dignitaries, neighbouring residents and of course the hard working volunteers whose dedication made the center a reality. That such a small community can accomplish so much should be of no surprise to anyone who has ever been a resident here and has seen the co-operation and enthusiasm exhibited by its members. From the Sports Committee's humble beginnings to the present day, the organization has perpetually strived to meet the needs of the community it serves. From ball games to educational workshops the Committee has sponsored and supported innumerable activities for the community, and looks forward to a long future of continued service to the Community of Guy.

EDGEHILL COMMUNITY HALL

by Bud Caron

The Edgehill Community Hall was constructed in 1944 by the community residents. Some of the main organizers as we remember were: Harold Restall, George Vowden, Jim Gruber, Ben May, Napoleon and Wilfred Auger, Joe Gagnon, John Winnicky, Louis Moreau, Fred Caron, Jos Morin, Nick Sidoroff, John Minarovich and many more.

Jules Bourgeois hauled the gravel for the

cement work. It was loaded all by hand and unloaded the same way. The cement was also mixed by hand with shovels and hoes.

All donations were recorded. Stanley Olshanski supervised the building of the Hall and all other labour was voluntary. The building was completed the same summer.

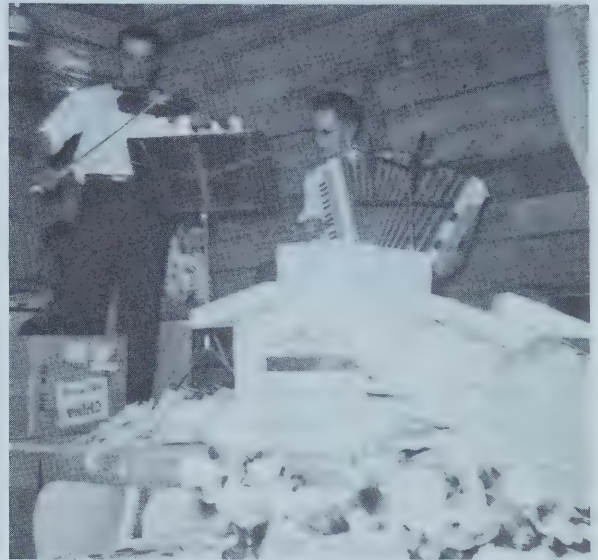
This 30' X 60' building was a land mark till disposed of in 1965. It was sold to Paul Lacoursiere for a garage and moved to Paul's farm seven miles away. The land (four acres) on the NE-33-75-21-W5 originally bought from Abe Sidoroff, was sold to John Minarovich for the same price of eighty dollars. During those twenty-one years there were many pleasant occasions left in the memories of the local residents.

The summer of 1958, Fee Gagnon, Bud Caron and Martin Lonfat were elected as chairman, secretary and treasurer. They organized dances every two weeks for the entire season. Rain or shine that summer, the old building rocked, bringing in crowds from as far away as High Prairie, Peace River, Nampa, Eaglesham and McLennan. The music was mostly organized by Roger Winnicky, who played the accordion, and some friends. Mary and John Winnicky looked

after the lunches and some of the beverage. That season, the committee accumulated sufficient funds to repay all the original cash donors, wire the building for lights and to buy a portable light plant.

Other musicians who played over the years were the "Edgehill Trio" (Jim Gruber, Bud Caron and Don Gagnon) and Lionel Roy from Falher. On many occasions volunteers were welcomed to play to give the musicians a "coffee" break.

Over the years to follow, the activities and



Mike Halubowich and Roger Winnicky, 1952.

participation dwindled and the building was in need of repair, so the representatives who were still involved sold the building and donated the money (\$648.84) towards the Langlois School outdoor recreational equipment.



Enée & Simon Fortier.

THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SMOKY RIVER # 130 – OUR GOVERNMENT

Long before this area became known as the M.D. No. 130, the rest of Canada referred to this territory as the "Peace River Country". Some 35 townships now form this municipality located in the southeast part of the original Peace River country between townships 73 and 81 from range 19 to 24 west of the 5th meridian.

Ever since discovery of our area able men have directed its destinies and have brought it to its actual form of government. From 1912 to 1952, the territory was looked after by such administrators as Mr. Frank Hoffman, A.L. Rutherford, Marcel Dompnier, L. St. Arnaud, Conrad Côté and R. Laurie. In January 1952 the



Municipality Smoky River #130: Ferdinand Lévesque, Lionel Marier, Jules Bourgeois, Donat Cloutier, Andrew Erickson, Georges St-Jean (standing).

area became a municipal district. Mr. W.D. Isbister was the first administrator under the Department of Municipal Affairs while Miss Evelyne Ethier was secretary-treasurer. The original name was District Fillion No. 130 and it was made from parts of Local Improvement Districts 125 and 131. The Smoky River M.D. #130 was divided into five subdivisions until 1986 when subdivision 6 was formed.

The Guy and Whitemud Creek areas are respectively subdivision No. 1 and No. 2 and form the southern part of the municipality. The first M.D. council was elected March 1952.

The Councillors were:

Mr. Jules Bourgeois	Division No. 1
Mr. Lionel Marier	Division No. 2
Mr. Andre Erickson	Division No. 3
Mr. George St. Jean	Division No. 4
Mr. E. J. Dolan	Division No. 5

At the first meeting, the motion to change the



Smoky River Municipality #130. 1986, councillors. Romeo Dumont subdivision 2, Andre Bremont (5), Raymond Rey (3), Jos Chaibos (1), Claude Sirois (6), Fernand Turcotte (4).

name was passed. The territory then became known as the Municipal District of Smoky River No. 130.

Reeves: Mr. George St. Jean was elected first reeve of the M.D. and remained in office until 1955 when Mr. Jules Bourgeois took over until 1962. Mr. Louis Sylvain served as the head of the M.D. council till 1983.

Councillors: Here are the changes which took place at the councillors' level in Division 1 and 2.

April 1961	Sigurd Arndt	replaces L. Marier
December 1962	Paul Gagnon	replaces J. Bourgeois
December 1964	Robert Veraart	replaces S. Arndt
December 1968	R. Dumont	replaces R. Veraart
November 1969	Roderick Caron	replaces P. Gagnon
October 1974	Paul Gagnon	replaces R. Caron
October, 1983		Reeve: Fernand Turcotte Dep. Reeve Paul Gagnon Andre Bremont Romeo Dumont Raymond Rey (Repl. L. Sylvain) Paul Gagnon deceased
November, 1984		Dep. Reeve Andre Bremont (Repl. P. Gagnon)
December, 1984		Reeve: Fernand Turcotte Dep. Reeve Andre Bremont Romeo Dumont Raymond Rey Joseph Chaibos (Repl. P. Gagnon)
January, 1985		Reeve: Andre Bremont Dep. Reeve Raymond Rey Joseph Chaibos Romeo Dumont Fernand Turcotte Claude Sirois (New Division) Same as above
October, 1986		Reeve: Andre Bremont Dep. Reeve Raymond Rey Joseph Chaibos Romeo Dumont Fernand Turcotte Claude Sirois (New Division) Same as above
April, 1987		Same as above

References: Story of Rural Municipal Government in Alberta 1903 - 1983 and minutes of Smoky River M.D. #130

PAUL GAGNON MEMORIAL AWARD

in memory of PAUL GAGNON 1923-1984

PAUL JOSEPH FERDINAND GAGNON served on the Smoky River Area Recreation Board for nine years, six of which he was appointed Board Chairman. Committed to the value of recreation in our lives, Paul believed in the concept of regional recreation and the benefits it provides to all. Paul strongly supported, and exemplified, the efforts and commitment of volunteer leaders in our community.



Paul Gagnon.

In honour of his years of service, the Smoky River Area Recreation Board established the Paul Gagnon Memorial Award in 1985 to be presented on an Annual basis.

The aim of the Award is to recognize outstanding volunteer leaders in the Smoky River Area who have contributed the most to improving the quality of life of Area residents through recreation and culture.

The Award consists of a permanent plaque to be hung in the M.D. # 130 Building in honour of Paul Gagnon and in recognition of annual award recipients; and, an individual plaque to be presented to each recipient. In 1985, the recipient was Father Raphaël Lessard, o.m.i., and in 1986 the recipient was Mr. Armand Cloutier.

Information: Smoky River M.D. # 130
Roger Laflamme & Lynne Maisonneuve Belley.

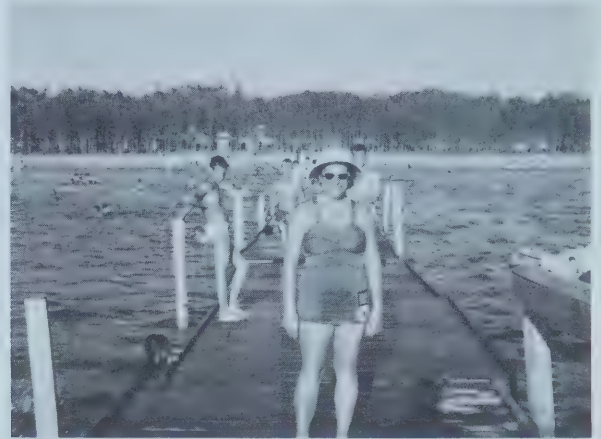
LILIAN MAISONNEUVE SCHOLARSHIP

From 1959 to 1972 Lilian Maisonneuve dedicated her summers to instructing swimming lessons to anyone interested in learning the skills of swimming in the large lake in the Winnagami Provincial Park.

Participants ranged from tiny tots to senior

citizens. She also provided lifeguarding services for recreational swimming.

When the McLennan Swimming Pool was established, Mrs. Maisonneuve then taught adult lessons in the evening commencing in the year 1974 up until the pool closed down.



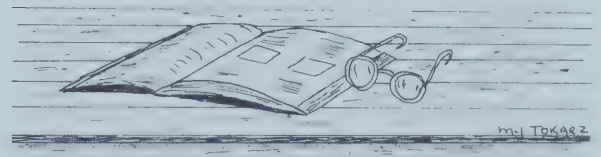
Lilian Maisonneuve.

To honour her years of service and her contribution to improving the quality of life in the Smoky River Area through Recreation, the Smoky River Area Recreation Board established a \$300.00 Scholarship in her name for post-secondary students majoring in recreation, Physical Education or a related field. The Scholarship is awarded annually in the month of December.

The criteria for the Scholarship is as follows:

- 1- Student must be a graduate of either Georges P. Vanier School in Donnelly or Ecole Routhier School in Falher.
- 2- Must be enrolled in at least the second year of Recreation, Physical Education, Fine Arts or closely related field.
- 3- Student must submit a resume, academic records and prove leadership ability.

Information: Smoky River M.D. # 130
Roger Laflamme & Lynne Maisonneuve Belley.



ELECTRIFICATION RURALE – GUY R.E.A. (RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION LTD)

Recherches: Suzanne Lachance, Aimé Lemay, Gemma Tokarz
Ecrit par Cécile Aubin

Tôt en 1952 l'Abbé Thys, curé de la paroisse de Guy, influence Paul Gagnon à prendre la responsabilité d'obtenir l'électricité pour usage dans les maisons et les fermes de Guy. Il faut commencer par sensibiliser la population rurale. Paul entreprend les démarches nécessaires pour mener à bonne fin ce projet. Il dresse une carte de la région indiquant les foyers intéressés sur les township 75, 76, 77, sur le rangs 20 et 21 où il y a plus forte concentration de la population et il fait approuver cette carte par les autorités. Plusieurs réunions sont tenues afin d'étudier la possibilité et d'intéresser le plus de gens possible.

A une réunion tenue en juin 1952 un comité est formé de Paul Gagnon, président, Jules Bourgeois, vice-président, François Jasmin, secrétaire et conseillers Aimé Lemay, Jos Johnson, Louis Besse. La coopérative Guy R.E.A. est formée.

On décide que le coût sera \$1000.00 par membre, réparti sur une période de dix ans; mais à ce bas prix les fermiers doivent contribuer au travail. On demande donc à chaque membre de la coopérative de couper 14 poteaux, de les transporter à des endroits choisis et de traiter ces poteaux avec un préservatif pour un crédit de \$7.00 du poteau. M. Camille Hachey obtient le contrat d'installer la ligne électrique. Il est à noter que les commerces du village de Guy ne peuvent être membres de la coopérative et doivent payer un loyer à l'association pour le service.

La cour de Paul Gagnon devient un véritable chantier de travail—les fermiers apportent

les poteaux qui sont traités sur place et Camille Hachey et ses employés sont aussi à la besogne. Le travail va si bien qu'après la première année d'opération la coopérative a monté quarante-sept milles de ligne de transmission. En décembre 1953 les premiers sur cette ligne reçoivent le pouvoir électrique. Quelle merveille!

Paul continue à parcourir la contrée afin d'obtenir autant de contrats que possible afin de conserver le bas prix de \$1000.00 pour chacun. Au 15 novembre il avait obtenu vingt-huit autres signatures. C'est donc un va et vient chez les Gagnons – réunions, nouveaux contrats à signer, rencontres avec les autorités: M. Webber de Co-operative Activities et J.B. MacGregor de Alberta Power Commission.

En 1956 Jean Campbell prit le poste de secrétaire et Aimé Lemay le remplace en 1957 jusqu'en 1970. En mars 1970 Anne Fletcher le remplace, en 1977 Lynn Bateman, en 1978 Claire Délâge et en 1981 Gemma Tokarz.

Les gens de la région de Whitemud Creek deviennent membres en 1958 mais le prix est de \$1150.00 dû à la traversée de la rivière Little Smoky.

Le 23 juin 1983 la coopérative est vendue à Alberta Power pour \$153,245.00. Les directeurs à ce temps sont: Arnold Jones, John Tokarz, Roland Amundson, J.F. Claydon, Léo Lemire, Lucien Garant et Robert Despins. Le nombre de membres au moment de la vente est de 454.

Nous ne pouvons terminer sans exprimer un profond remerciement à Paul Gagnon et à sa famille ainsi qu'à Aimé Lemay pour ce grand bienfait de l'électricité qui nous a rendu la vie beaucoup plus facile; c'est grâce à leur années de dévouement que nous avons obtenu ce service à ce temps.

* * *



Building the power line in 1952–53.

In early 1952, the pastor of Guy, Father Thys, pressured Paul Gagnon to take the responsibility of obtaining the electricity for the houses and farms of Guy. Paul undertakes the necessary steps to successfully carry out this project. He prepares a map of the region indicating the homes and farms in townships 75, 76, 77 of ranges 20 and 21, where there is a larger concentration of the population and gets the approval of the authorities. Many meetings are held to study the possibilities and to interest as many people as possible.

At a meeting held in June 1952, a committee is set up with Paul Gagnon as president, Jules Bourgeois as vice-president, François Jasmin as secretary and councillors Aime Lemay, Jos Johnson and Louis Besse. The cooperative "Guy R.E.A." is formed.

It is decided that the cost would be \$1000.00 per member, payable over a period of ten years, but at this low price the farmers would have to contribute some labor. Each member is asked to cut fourteen poles, to transport them at the designated places, and to treat those poles with a preservative, all for a credit of \$7.00 a pole. Camille Hachey obtains the contract of installing the electricity line. It is to be noted that the businesses in the hamlet of Guy cannot be members of the Cooperative and have to pay rent to the Association for the service.

Paul Gagnon's yard becomes a real work camp. The farmers bring and treat their poles; Camille and his employees are at work also. The work advances so well that, after the first year of operation, the Cooperative has installed forty-seven miles of transmission lines. In December 1953, the first ones on the line receive the electric power. How marvellous!

Paul continues to canvass the region to obtain as many contracts as possible, in order to keep the low cost of \$1000.00 for each one. By November 15, he had obtained twenty-eight more signatures. Thus, it is always a come and go at the Gagnons; assemblies, new contracts to sign, meetings with the authorities; Mr. Webber of Co-operative Activities and J.B. MacGregor of Albert Power Commission.

In 1956, Jean Campbell takes the post of secretary of the REA, Aimé Lemay replaces him in 1957 until 1970. In March 1970, Anne Fletcher takes the position, in 1977 Lynn Bateman, in 1978 Claire Delâge and in 1981 Gemma Tokarz.

The people of Whitemud Creek region become members in 1958, but they have to pay the price of \$1150.00 because of the crossing of Little Smoky River.

In June 1983, the Co-operative is sold to Alberta Power for \$153,245.00. The directors at that time were: Arnold Jones, John Tokarz, Roland Amundson, J.F. Claydon, Léo Lemire, Lucien Garant and Robert Despins. There are 454 members at the time.

We cannot close this report without expressing our sincere thanks to Paul Gagnon and his family as well as to Aimé Lemay for this great benefit of electricity, which made our life so much easier; for it is due to their years of devotedness that we have obtained this service.

SMOKY RIVER SKI HILL – THE HISTORY

by a few ski-hill enthusiasts

The Smoky River Ski Hill is located south of Guy by the Little Smoky River.

In 1968, the possibilities of building a ski-hill were discussed by a handful of interested individuals, mainly Paul Brisson, John Doucette and Gerard Maure.

During the next years an informal group of individuals endeavoured to clear two runs and to install a gas powered tow rope. Many individuals and groups donated time and labour as well as money towards the initial start-up of the ski hill. The M.D. No 130, Jean-Paul Desaulniers and Roger Maisonneuve donated time with a "Cat" to clear the runs, Paul Ruel donated time with a backhoe, Chalifoux Motors donated the tractor, McLennan & Falher donated cash to purchase the few items needed to become operational.



Emile Johnson of Guy has volunteered his weekends to working at the hill. Above he works on damaged ski equipment in the ski rental facility.



Smoky River ski hill.

The ski hill operated with its modest hill and tow equipment until 1973. In the meantime interest in skiing grew to a point that the club aimed at getting a membership of 200 members. In 1973 a new generation of skiers, representing Valleyview, High Prairie, Guy, Whitemud, Falher, Girouxville, McLennan, Donnelly, the M.D. No 130, as well as the I.D.'s No 16 & 17, decided to upgrade the facility.

A chalet (old school house) was purchased at a minimal cost from Mr. Benoit Aubin and moved on site by Mr. Raoul Lambert. A second tow rope was installed and the committee purchased an electrical generator and converted the tow from gas to electricity. The committee at this point consisted of President, Jean-Roch Monfette (Falher), Vice-President, Romeo Perra (McLennan), Treasurer, Marcel Durand (Donnelly), Directors; Richard Leask (Girouxville), Brian Ross (High Prairie), Guy Guerin (Donnelly), Emile Johnson (Whitemud), Dave Neville (Valleyview).

Two major contributors, spearheading the work and engineering the mechanical wizardry were Mr. Gerard Maure of Falher in the early years and Mr. Guy Guerin of Donnelly who engineered the switchover to electricity and installed the second tow rope. In addition, Mr. Robert McQuaker of Valleyview, designed and installed, at no cost, the necessary electrical components to ensure that these met all Provincial regulations. In 1980, the Smoky River Area Recreation Board took over the operation of the ski hill.

Many residents of the area have enjoyed the Smoky River ski hill and many thanks go to past presidents of the ski hill: Mr. Dave Neville, Valleyview, 1971-72; Jean Roch Monfette, 1973-76; Rene Mercier, 1977-79. From 1980 to 1984 the Chairman of the Smoky River area Recreation Board assumed the role of chairman for the ski hill. Jean Johnson of McLennan was appointed chairman of the new standing committee of the Recreation Board. Emile Johnson volunteered as Manager from 1973 until 1987. He skillfully



Ski - Hill

Top picture: Building housing tractor that operated the tow rope. Bottom picture: Chalet that was once the High School in Donnelly (1937) then became the Benoit Aubin children's playhouse and was later bought for the ski hill chalet. (Photo Smoky River Express Feb. 21, 1973).

managed the project as a volunteer until 1980 and resumed these responsibilities again two years later. The past successes of the Ski Hill are due to the astute administrative and public relations talent of Mr. Johnson.

In 1984, Jean Johnson of McLennan and Bonita Neri Director of the SRARB presented to the Board a proposal which saw a radical change in the ski hill. Since that time the ski hill has been relocated 3 km. North of the original hill. A new road has been built, a parking lot, 6 downhill

runs, approximately 10 km. of cross-country ski trails with the potential for a lot more. A new T-bar lift system is to be installed during the summer of 1987, with the official opening of the new facility to open in the Fall of 1987.

THE FIVE STAR RANCH

by Noël Boisvert

The "Five Star Ranch", located on the Little Smoky River, had its beginning back in the early 20's. A few pioneers like Omer Cloutier and Noé Verdon had been there before. Indians, travelling the old trail from Sturgeon Lake to the Kathleen area, stopped at the flat to cut hay for their horses and shoot wild game. Many old decaying drying racks used for the purpose of smoking and curing meat for storage were still visible when this area was first seen. Part of the road to the golf course today follows the original Indian trail. In 1932, four bachelors from Falher, Ernest Lambert, Alfred Rivard, Joe Lacombe and Arthur St. Pierre, had a vision of a potential market garden business at the flat. So in late November the group moved into a tent and began the construction of a log cabin. It was Omer Boisvert who had originally told the group about this piece of land. He also built a log cabin further up the river, which was used for hunting. After a year with the market garden, the enthusiasm somewhat faded for some and only two remained, St. Pierre and Rivard. Within a short time Rivard had his own shack at the opposite end of the field. During this time the flat was the meeting place for all the families within close proximity. They came with horse and buggy bouncing over the rough trail. There were softball games, swimming and the gathering of the older people for a friendly visit. Dances were held in Rivard's large living room when larger picnics were held.

Another road was cut down to the river. It came from the general direction where Allan Merchant and Moise Dupuy originally lived. This would be north-east from the land slide which occurred in the early fifties. Some logging was done along this trail and as they moved from one spruce patch to another down hill it finally reached the flat. This was the shortest route to use. Many families also picked berries during the summer along this trail. When the war was declared in 1939, many of the youth left for the services, others to jobs that became available because of the conflict. Others had to leave to attend high school outside the district. The flat slowly returned to its original form of wild grass once more. In 1944, a forest fire swept through the hills and valley, leaving an ugly scar. After



Landmark for Normand Coulombe's cabin and the golf course.

this St. Pierre sold his land to Alphonse Courchesne and Rivard to Dr. Bouilly, who later disposed to Phil Lapensee. Allan Merchant rented the land until it was sold. In 1946 a new ferry was built and moved to the crossing, just up the river from Joe Vincelette (present day Phil Lapensee). With better roads and a good swimming hole, the crowd shifted to the ferry crossing on Sundays. In 1951, another fire raged through the hills and flat, this time destroying the three cabins built in 1932. In 1954, nature took one more step, creating the huge land slide at the top of the hill. This affected the river by heaving up the whole bottom for over one half mile. Consequently, it backed up, covering the flat with several feet of water. Fortunately, the river downstream cut a new channel and the flat drained clear. Had the river not done this, the golf course today would have a large channel through it.

Again 1979, nature was tampered with, when a deep well was dug for water. When water was reached, it blew wild out of control for several weeks, until Haliburton Services finally controlled it. In 1970, the Five Star Ranch was born. The original owners were Gilbert Lauze, Hector Guenette, Charles Cimon, John Doucette and Father Alphonse Turenne. At this time, they purchased from the last two owners of the flat. After several years of grain farming it was converted to a modern golf course. You can golf the course, stop at the Club house and sip the beer of your choice. Back some fifty years ago, during the time of our good picnics and dances there, the bootlegger had to conceal himself behind a tree to sell his product, and the purchaser had to hide to drink it. Although fifty years have gone by and the flat has changed a great deal, it's still a place for people to gather for a good time.

CELEBRATIONS — 50
(04-07-1981)

*Vous êtes invités à assister
aux célébrations du cinquantenaire
de la Paroisse St-Guy
samedi le quatre juillet
et
dimanche le cinq juillet
mil neuf cent quatre-vingt un
Guy, Alberta*

*Une messe anniversaire sera célébrée par son
Excellence Monseigneur Henri Legaré, o.m.i.
dimanche le onze octobre
mil neuf cent quatre-vingt un
à seize heures
en l'église St-Guy*

*Cette messe suivie d'un souper paroissial
au sous-sol de l'église*

50

*You are invited to celebrations in honour of the
Fiftieth Anniversary
of the
Parish of St. Guy
to be held
Saturday, the fourth of July
and
Sunday, the fifth of July
nineteen hundred and eighty-one
Guy, Alberta*

*We are also having a special
Anniversary Mass
with*

*His Excellency Archbishop Henri Legaré, o.m.i.
on Sunday, October the eleventh
nineteen hundred and eighty-one
at 4:00 p.m.*

to be followed by a Parish Supper, Church Basement



Float 50th Pioneers.

HOMMAGE A NOS PIONNIERS

Marie-Anne Blais

Le demi-siècle a sonné à l'horloge du temps.
Cinquante fois l'été a suivi le printemps,
Comme eux, sans vaciller.

La journée de la vie file vers son couchant,
Et le sentier fini, sous leurs pas chancelants,
De triomphe est rempli.

Amoureux de la terre et traceurs de sillons,
A notre peuple fier, amoureux de la terre,
Ils ont prêté leurs noms.

Ont bâti l'avenir à l'ombre des clochers
Ont semé la foi vive et bâti l'avenir
Sur des berceaux penchés.

Une langue très chère aux accents toujours appris
Sur les genoux des mères; une langue très chère
Est l'écho de leurs vies.

L'odeur des champs fauchés, la flamme de la foi,
Le brisement des blés, la paix des soirs d'été
Se partagent leurs voix.

Dans de calmes aurores, nos foyers sont blottis,
Du prix de leurs efforts, dans de calmes aurores,
Des rêves qu'il ont muris.

Clocher de mon village, prête le son de ton airain,
La brise dans le feuillage, sublime langage,
Discute notre destin.

Allons, prenons le temps de vivre, prenons le temps d'aimer
Tout en faisant revivre, prenons le temps de vivre
Toutes ces joies qu'ils ont données.



Leading parade: Valerie Wawrzonek and Gail Gagnon.



Mr. A. Lambert's original mail truck driven by his son in the parade.



The crowning of the 50th anniversary queen, Susan Lamarche, by the 25th anniversary queen, Elizabeth Tokarz Morin.



The band, "La Gigue Electrique" plays lively tunes.



Mrs. Marie Rose Brulotte (87 yrs.) two-stepping with her son, Guy.



Cecil and his mother, Mrs. Marie Brulotte (79 yrs.) enjoying a lively dance on the lawn.



Cecile Aubin interviewing Mrs. Rosalie Major, the first lady to settle on a homestead south east of what is now known as Guy (1929).



52 Brothers, Benoit and Alberic Aubin and sister Auxiliatrice Aubin Lessard doing what they love doing — singing. In the background, Jacques Chauvin.

CELEBRATION — 50 (11-10-1981)



Co-celebration of mass. René Bélanger, o.m.i., Bishop Henri Légaré, o.m.i., Clément Richer, o.m.i.



Church choir: Tammie Lyne Aubin, Benoît Aubin, Gerard Jasmin, Claude Jasmin, Antoine Boulet, Marcel and Lorraine Jasmin, organist Angelina Jasmin, Marie-Paule Boulet.



The congregation at mass honoring pioneers.



Table of honor: Sister Alice Desfossés, c.s.c., Sister Thérèse Michaud, c.s.c., René Bélanger, o.m.i., Bishop Henri Légaré, o.m.i., Clément Richer, o.m.i.



Ladies busy in the kitchen.



Susan Lamarche, 50th anniversary queen.



Lucienne Lambert Pitre — M.C. for the concert.



Shari Bourgeois and Gemma Tokarz selling souvenirs.



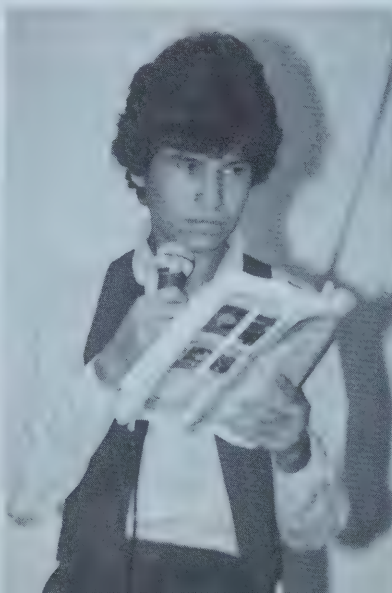
Jeannine Bourgeois Tenove prepared and delivered the history of the parish of Guy.



Gabrielle Gagnon Johnson, pianist, accompanies Rachel Aubin, singing.

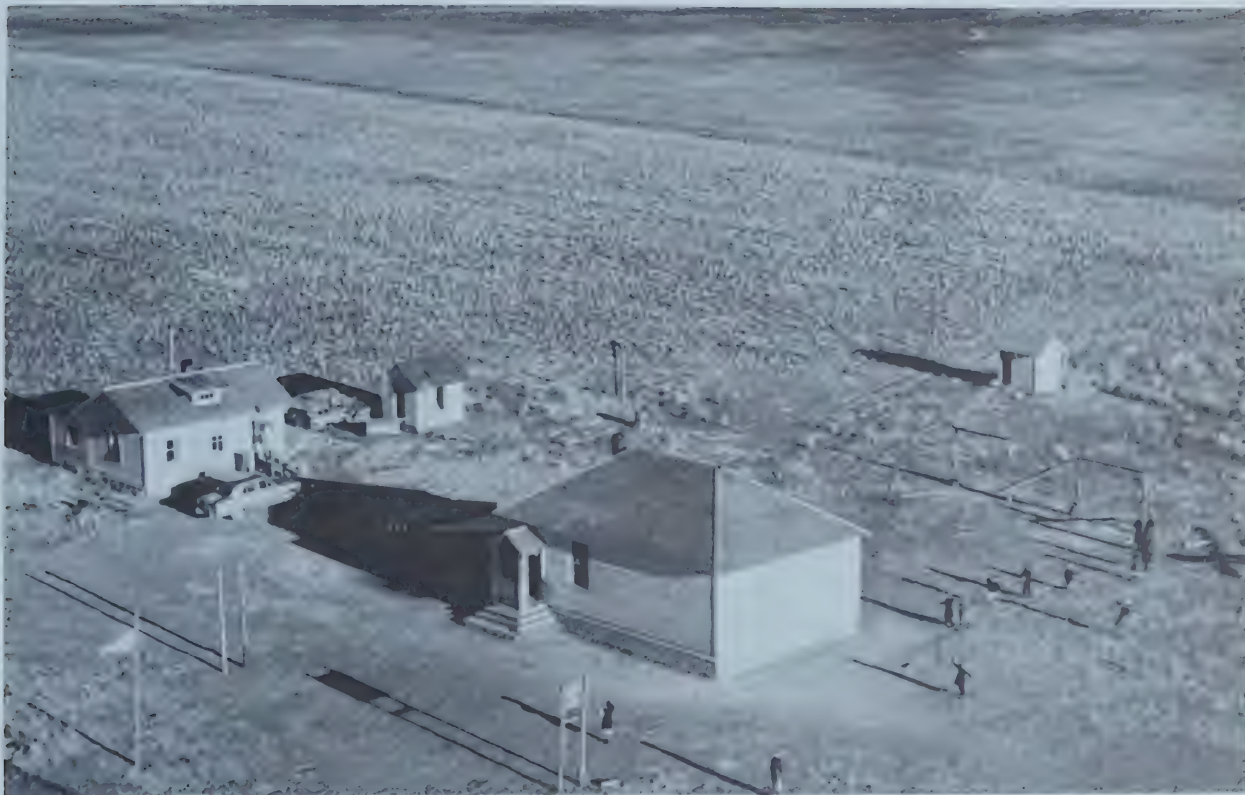


Sister Thérèse Michaud, c.s.c. represents the Sisters of Holy Cross at the celebration.



Curtis Cardinal

Education



Ecole Benoit School. (1950)

SCHOOL DISTRICTS / DISTRICTS SCOLAIRES

Rg 22

Rg 21

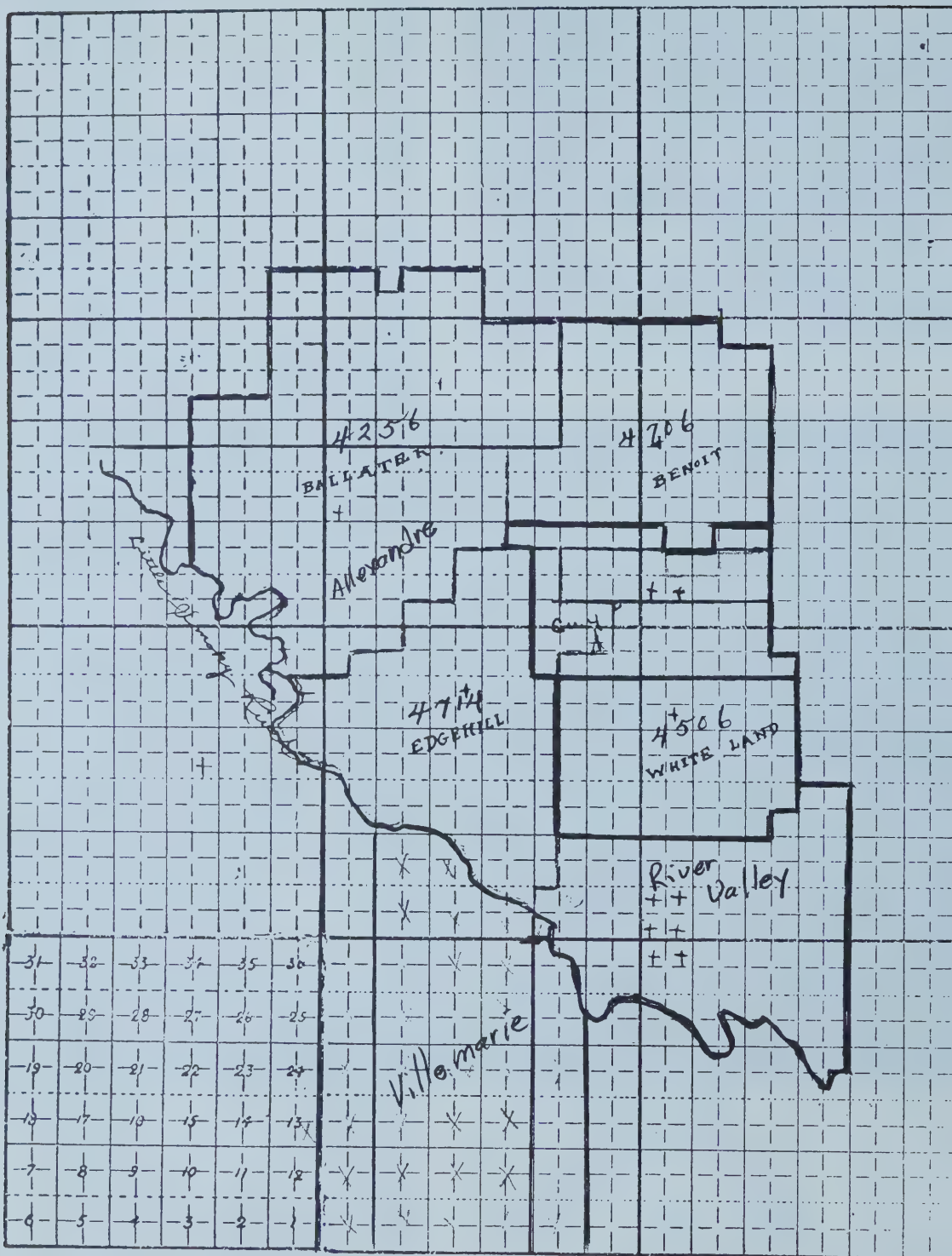
Rg 20

77

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74



Carte.

THE BALLATER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4256

by Gaston Mencke

In 1926, the Ballater School District No. 4256 was organized and formed. Although it was often confused by the Department of Education at the time, the district was organized and developed with the erection of two schools: the first being built on NW -28-76-21-W5 and named Ballater #1 North which was followed several years later by Ballater South on SW-18-76-21-W5. Departmental officials often thought it was only one building with two classes.

For about twenty five years, these two schools were the main source of education for the residents of the area. Many still live in the Guy vicinity engaged in the agricultural sector.

Part II

by Noel Boisvert

In 1926, the first school classes were held at William Faust's house, located where Paul Lacourse now resides. The first teacher was a Miss Horst. For part of the year 1927 classes were held in the same house, but the term was finished in a large log house near the Peavine Creek, ---- owned by Anthime Jette. In 1929, Ballater School was constructed by Wilbrod Desaulniers. The



Ballater S.D. #1, North. R.1 Josephine Cloutier, Marguerite Cloutier, Marie Cloutier. R.2 Margaret Conklin, Irene MacDonald, Mariette Lacourse, Annette Boisvert. R.3 Lily Lacourse, Thérèse Daoust, Jeanne Lacourse, Lorna Conklin.

doors opened that fall, with Miss Anna Penfond, the teacher. It was a big change from the log house at the creek to a new modern school. Its many windows on the east side gave ample sunshine. A barn and ice house were later built. The

following is a list of teachers who have taught in Ballater #1 North.

THE BALLATER SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 4256

Teacher Lists 1930-1956

Miss Horst — 1926-27
Mary Gamble — 1927-28
No teacher — 1928-29
Anna Penfond — 1929-30
Melonia Caron — January, 1930 - June 30, 1930
Angeline Campbell — September, 1930 - June 30, 1931
Miss Paule Lauze — September, 1931 - December 31, 1932
Suzanne Mercier — September, 1932 - March 18, 1933; (June 30, 1933)
Charles F. Bentley — September, 1933 - December 31, 1935
Charles F. Bentley (North Unit) — January, 1936 - June 30, 1936
Robina J. Hamilton (South Unit) — January, 1936 - June 30, 1940
Marc Bernard (North Unit) — September, 1936 - December 31, 1937
Berthea Henderson (North Unit) — January, 1938 - June 30, 1938
James A. Pattullo (North Unit) — September, 1938 - June 30, 1939
Miss Marcelle Bugeaud (North Unit) — September, 1939 - June 30, 1940
Michael Korpan (South Unit) — September, 1940 - June 30, 1941
Bert Paul Cote (North Unit) — September, 1940 - June 30, 1941
Allen Ronaghan (North Unit) — October 27, 1941 - December 31, 1941; School closed in September
Jack Smart (South Unit) — October 27, 1941 - December 31, 1941
Sadie Hanks (South Unit) — January 5, 1942 - March 20, 1942; (June 30, 1942)
Beatrice McMillan (South Unit) — March 23, 1942 - June 30, 1942
Edna Hutchinson (North Unit) — January 5, 1942 - March 20, 1942; (June 30, 1942)
Victoria Israelson (North Unit) — March 23, 1942 - June 30, 1942
Melonia E. Caron (South Unit) — September, 1942 - July 14, 1944; September, 1945 - November 20, 1945; (School was closed Nov. 21 - Dec. 21, 1945)
Melonia E. Caron (North Unit) — August, 1942 - September, 1942; October, 1944 - July 6, 1945
Doris Austin (South Unit) — May 3, 1946 - July 26, 1946



COPY OF MINUTES

Annual Meeting of Ratepayers of the Ballater School District
No. 4256, held on January 15th 1932

GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

McEwen, Alberta,
October 1, 1940.

Dear Sir:

Re: Ballater S.D. # 4256.

On previous occasions, I have reported to the Department that the financial situation in the above district has not been what could be expected. Yesterday, I inspected the two schools in this area. On my return I called at the Department of Municipal Affairs office here to discuss the matter with the Inspector, Mr. St. Arnaud.

The financial situation is as follows: taken from
January 21st audit 1940;

Debentures past due	\$ 858.65
Not yet due	822.78
Arrears of teachers' salaries	
September 1, 1940 Miss Bugeaud	272.00 North
Miss Hamilton	479.44 South

The present teachers need their money, the teacher of the north unit has borrowed to go to Normal and is at present putting his sister through High School. The teacher of the South unit must pay \$36.50 per month on his car. The secretary has \$30.00 on hand, the sum of \$40.00 being paid to the present teachers. Since last audit, the present secretary, Mrs. Dupuy receives \$12.00 per month and the previous secretary, Joe Boisvert, received \$15.00 monthly. The secretaries are being paid regularly.

According to the Department of Municipal Affairs file, the new assessment was sent to the secretary of this district in 1939 with explicit advice to use it for that year. No trace of the new assessment could be found in the records of the district and apparently the Board refused to use the new assessment, and in 1940 persuasion has to be exerted by the same Department to have the new assessment used. The old assessment totaled \$78,654.00, the mill rate was 20. The new assessment is \$115,480.00, the 1940 mill rate will be fixed at 15.

The total grants amount to \$5.10 per teaching day, providing that both schools are open. The salaries are \$7.00. Therefore, to pay the teachers the district must raise \$870. The operation of the two schools cost \$21 1.39 in 1939, and only \$1205.5 was paid on teachers salaries. The district to operate must raise at least \$15 0 without considering payments on arrears of salaries or debentures. At 15 mills it makes a levy of \$1501.24. Taking for granted that only 2/3 of the current levy can be collected, this district will operate at a deficit of at least \$500.00.

Henry Villeneuve's term expire as
Trustee
Proposed by Mr Cooper seconded by
Mr George Dupuis that Mr P. Dussault
be elected as trustee
Proposed by Mr May seconded by Mr
Joe Alexandre that H. Villeneuve
be elected as trustee.
Mr Pierre Dussault elected by
3 votes majority for trustee for this term
Proposed by Mr P. Dussault seconded
by Mr Blanchet that Mr Alexandre
be elected as Chairman.
Proposed by Mr Joe Alexandre and
seconded by Mr Pierre Dussault
that Therese Dussault be elected
as secretary.
Mrs Therese Dussault Secretary
Treasurer @ \$96.00 a year payable
every month @ \$8.00 a month.

1930-1931

1930-1931

J. Alexandre
Chairman.

Therese Dussault
Secretary.
11256

Copy of minutes Ballater School.

Rosemary Boehm (North Unit) — September,
1946 — June 30, 1947
Doris Austin (South Unit) — July 2, 1947 — July
26, 1947
Miss V. Ewanichuk (North Unit) — September,
1947 — December 31, 1947
Ralph Bickle (South and North Units) — January,
1948 — June 30, 1948
Therese Alexander (North Unit) — October 4,
1948 — December 17, 1948
Angela Bourassa (North Unit) — February 1,
1949 — April 30, 1949
Barbara Leard (North Unit) — May 1, 1949 — June
30, 1949
Ralph Bickel (North Unit) — October 20, 1950 —
April 4, 1950
June Stokes (North Unit) — May 1, 1950 — June
30, 1951
Mrs. Nellie Lambright (North Unit) — September,
1951 — June 30, 1952
No records available for the September, 1952 —
June 30, 1953 school year.
Cyril Porter — September, 1953 — June 30, 1954
Edith Brian — September, 1954 — June 30, 1955
Jean Maria Meurer — September, 1955 — June 30,
1956

Letter.

School Secretaries	School Board Chairmen
Harris Conklin	Jos Alexandre
Henri Villeneuve	Elzear Cloutier
Joe Boisvert	John Cooper
Mrs. George Dupuy	
Donat Lacourse	
John Cooper	Omer Boisvert

Some of the family names of children attending
Ballater #1 North.

Blanchet	Cote	Lacourse
Boisvert	Daoust	Lonfat
Bourgeois	Dupuis	MacDonald
Cloutier	Dupuy	Minarovich
Conklin	Fortier	Laberge
	Faucher	

Of our earlier teachers, two that we know of are still with us today, Mrs. Fred Caron and Mrs. Marie-Paule (Lauze) Ancil. Another is Fred Bentley, who became Dean of Agriculture of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Alberta and was agriculture consultant for the Third World Countries. He also served on the Colombo Plan. We remember all the fun, snow ball fights,



REPORT OF INSPECTOR OR SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

S.D. Ballater North No. 4256 ✓ School Division McLennan No. 48
 Enrolment: I 1 ; II 2 ; III 1 ; IV 1 ; V 1 ; VI ; VII ;
 VIII 5 ; IX ; X ; XI ; Total 8 No. of Rooms...
 Accommodation Equipment General Organization

Stove pipes need to be replaced, there are three lengths and one elbow on hand. Coat hooks need to be rehung. New outside door needed.

Teacher's desk is needed.

Library books on hand.
 One set of encyclopaedia.
 Our country past and present
 We theme ties Book I
 Puck of Pook's Hill
 A world Geogra phy
 Story of Britain and Canada
 Understanding our world

Tom Sawyer
 Tom Brown's school days
 Robinson Crusoe
 The world of today

Have previous teacher return the Course of Studies.

If the attendance still decreases in this school it will be necessary to close this school and arrange for the attendance of these children at the south unit.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OR SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

S.D. Ballater South No. 4256 ✓ School Division McLennan No. 48
 Enrolment: I 1 ; II 5 ; III 2 ; IV ; V 3 ; VI 1 ; VII 5 ;
 VIII 1 ; IX ; X ; XI ; Total 14 No. of Rooms 1
 Accommodation Equipment General Organization

Some chairdeaks have been moved from the Ballater North school. Right and left side desks are required. A teacher's desk is also required.
 Also required: Stove Guard
 One window pane 10x16 for transome window
 Two transome catches. Four transome hinges.
 Three window blinds 8'x8" (there are three on hand)

Library books on hand
 Story of Britain and Canada
 World Geogra phy
 Course of Studies.

Complete Library needed.

Date December 15, 1941, 194

E. C. Stoholey
 (Inspector or Superintendent of Schools)

Report of inspector.



Ballater School #1, Class of 1935.

wars repelling all invaders, softball games in the large school playground and the long walks to school. The school years are a part of our lives that nothing can take away. For some of us it's been 50 years since those days and we still remember fondly all those who attended Ballater in the days prior to 1939.

Where did the name Ballater come from? Mr. John Cooper had come to this region in 1920 from a town in Scotland by that name. Ballater, Scotland is 40 miles west of the city Aberdeen, only a few miles from Balmoral Castle.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

McLennan, Alberta
 September 25, 1942

Dear Sir:

I wish to advise that yesterday I called at the north Ballater school, which is in charge of Mrs. M. Caron. The 8 attending pupils are from 3 families. I am closing this school on September 28th.

The first family will be sent to the Lefebvre school, which is the same distance to travel. The 3 children of the second family will attend the Falher Cons. #63 and the Division will be responsible for the tuition and dormitory fees. I have not yet made arrangements for the little boy, Jackie Conklin who is 8 years old, of the third family.

Mrs. Caron will be transferred from the north Ballater school to the south Ballater school on Monday, September 28th. The enrolment at south Ballater is approximately 20 pupils.

Your obedient servant,

E. C. Stoholey

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. H. C. Newland
 Supervisor of Schools
 Dept. of Education
 Edmonton, Alberta

Letter.

Ballater North S. D. No. 4256
 Summary of Attendance for the Term Ending June 1947

REGISTER NO.	AGE	GRADE	NAMES OF PUPILS	AGGREGATE DAYS ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS FOR EACH MONTH DURING THE TERM						LENGTH OF TIME EACH PUPIL HAS BEEN IN HIS GRADE
				1ST MONTH	2ND MONTH	3RD MONTH	4TH MONTH	5TH MONTH	6TH MONTH	
14	9		Charles Horner				26	21	14	372
13	9		Debra Pickett				18	11	19	
12	6		Clinton Edging	9	20	21	16	21	14	11
11	5		Janice Joseph	15	19	19	13	16	14	96
10	5		Debra George					13	8	24
9	3		Berna Fennick	19	20	19	16	22	14	110
8	2		Blanchet Mackenzie	14	20	20	13	17	12	96
7	2		May Mackenzie	18	20	21	15	22	14	104
6	1		Berna Berra	13	20	19	14	22	13	107
5	1		Berna Berra	13	20	19	13	18	14	105
4	1		Berna Berra	13	20	21	16	22	14	112
3	1		Blanchet Gabriella	13	18	20	11	12	13	86
2	1		May Gordon	12	15	20	16	22	14	105
1	1		May Mackenzie	17	20	20	16	22	14	109
			Blanchet Bernad					18	2	26
TOTAL DAILY ATTENDANCE				171	212	219	164	249	189	1244

I hereby certify that the above record of attendance is correct in every particular.

James M. Berra
 Supervisor

No. of teaching days school was open during the term 112

Aggregate days' attendance for the term 1244

Average attendance for the term 11.28

Percentage of attendance for the term 86.201

Ballater North register.

BALLATER NO 2 SOUTH SCHOOL

by Gaston Mencke

With the expansion of the Ballater School District to include several other sections of land, south and west of its existing boundaries in 1935, it became necessary to investigate the possibility of building a new school in this area to accommodate the settlers and their families. In January 1936 the first steps were taken to erect this facility. The logs were cut and hauled by the local homesteaders to the corner of the SW18-76-21-W5. A portion of land consisting of three acres was purchased for the site. The logs were then peeled and erected during the winter months, again by the local men on a voluntary basis. The building was completed and in operation in March. The first teacher hired, Miss Robina Hamilton, originally from Wainwright, had a total of twenty students. This school, unlike other country schools in the area acquired a notable library, thanks to an available grant of \$15.00 a year for this purpose. It was also the recipient of another grant of \$1.20 per day for every day in operation to cover maintenance and administration cost.

The school approximately 24' X 36' could accommodate pupils from grade one to eight. It was heated by a barrel type wood furnace with the firewood being made and provided by local

neighbors. Light was provided by Coleman high-test naphtha lanterns when needed. Bathroom facilities comprised of two outdoor biffies that required no air-conditioning, especially during the winter months. The janitorial work was usually done by one of the oldest students or even the teacher after school for a very nominal fee. There was also a small barn on the premises to shelter the horses during the day. Students from further away usually travelled to school with buggies or cutters or even cabooses.

An icchouse was also a necessity to provide the drinking water for the season. The ice was cut on the little Smoky River at Art St. Pierre's flat (presently the Five Star Golf Course) and hauled and packed with sawdust in this building, by the local neighbors.

As indicated previously, Miss Robina Hamilton was the first teacher starting with the first partial semester from March to June 1936 and then following for four more complete school year terms up to June 1940. She was very well liked in the neighborhood and remained in close contact with many of her pupils by correspondence many years after her departure. She also became very intimately involved with a local bachelor, Leon Meyus, during her last year, which unfortunately ended tragically with Leon's accidental death at a railroad crossing in Calgary a few weeks before their scheduled wedding. Although it took her a few years to recover from this tragedy, she eventually married Mr. Maurice Polet, Belgian Consulate for Alberta in Edmonton. It is only until the last few years that contact with her has been lost and her whereabouts at the present time are uncertain.

In September 1940 Mike Korpan of Vegreville became the next teacher for one term.

In September 1941, due to a shortage of teachers, substitute teacher trainees were available and sent for a period of three months. Those being involved for this school term were Jack Smart, Sadie Hanks and Beatrice MacMillan. As this kind of supervision was not too satisfactory, it lasted only one year.

In September 1942, Mrs. Melonia Caron was transferred from Ballater North School that was closed due to a low enrollment of only eight students, to Ballater South, where they still had an attendance of fourteen pupils. She remained for two school terms to end in June 1943.

From this date on less information was available to continue the outcome of the Ballater South School. It is believed that it remained in operation for two more years under the supervision of Miss Doris Austin and then closed permanently. With the construction of modern and

REPORT PUPILS AT BEGINNING OF SCHOOL YEAR

NAME	AGE	SEX	DATE	PLACE
John J. Smith	10	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	M	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	F	1936-37	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	M	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	F	1937-38	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	M	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	F	1938-39	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	M	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	F	1939-40	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	M	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	F	1940-41	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	M	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	F	1941-42	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	M	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	10	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	9	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	8	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	7	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	6	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	5	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	4	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	3	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	2	F	1942-43	Ballater
John J. Smith	1	F	1942-43	Ballater

larger facilities in the surrounding villages of the region and also with the availability of French and religious education in these premises, student attendance in the Ballater Schools gradually declined and consequently in 1951 the Ballater School District was dissolved. It was replaced by the formation of the Alexandre School District No. 5154, the name suggested by Mr. Jos Lagace in honor of one of the pioneers, Mr. Jos Alexandre.

ALEXANDRE SCHOOL #5154

by Edith Lonfat

For a number of reasons some of the people in the Guy area preferred to have their children attend schools in the neighborhood. When the High Prairie School Division closed the North Ballater school they opened Alexandre School on the northwest corner of NW-8-76-21-5.

The first teacher to work in Alexandre School was Viginia Wiebe in the term of 1956-57. Then Edith Lonfat taught there until the school closed in October 1959.

This school served the families of: Roland Cloutier, Albert Dechief, Bert Doris, Harvey Drouin, Phillip Drouin, Moise Dupuy, Paul Lacoursiere, Alan Merchant, Jerry Morin and Dan Nadeau.

The school closed in October 1959 when many of the local parents voted to send their children to a centralized school. The government of Alberta gave grants for better roads so the children could be transported there by school buses.

SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT - BALLATER

by Norbert Blanchet

For most farm kids, the first motion pictures they saw was at the school. This was true for us. About once every two months, a person from the Department of Education would come. He had his own projector, screen and a portable generator. The movies themselves were mostly educational and looking back, were rather of a dry nature compared to today's movies. But it was not the movies that I remember most; it was the social event. It was a gathering of all the local kids in an atmosphere of fun.

WHITELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4506

researched and written by Cecile Houde Aubin

By 1931 many settlers were established in the area south-east of what is now the hamlet of Guy. Because the need for a school became a priority with the parents of school age children, a local Board of School Trustees was elected.

This board then obtained permission from the Department of Education to hold classes in a private home. Mr. Willie Brulotte, who had one of the largest houses in the area at the time, kindly offered the use of his living room as a classroom. This was accepted by both the ratepayers as well as the Department of Education. The cost for the rent, water, fuel and janitorial services was \$8.00 a month. Miss Bernadette Mathieu, a young girl from Trochu, Alberta was the hired teacher. She was the daughter of Dominique Mathieu, a family well known by the pastor of the settlement, Father Jean-François Mallet. What her salary was is unknown; but a letter from the Deputy Minister addressed to her states that \$840.00 for a year's teaching was too much money!

Holding classes in a family's living room was an emergency as well as a temporary arrangement causing inconveniences. Mr. W. Brulotte's family comprised ten children, moreover, the Brulotte family boarded the teacher, Miss Mathieu as well. It soon became apparent that Mr. Brulotte's living room was overcrowded.

RECOMMENDATION OF SPECIAL GRANT FOR White Land S.D. No. 4506

Assessed valuation of district	\$6,000
Number of quarter sections in district	74
Number of quarter sections assessable	40
Acreage in crop	700
Number of resident ratepayers	20
Number of children 5-16 years of age	19
Mill rate last year	\$4
Mill rate this year	Not set.
Amount levied last year	\$600.00
Amount levied this year	-
Amount collected to date this year	Current \$ - Arrears \$ -
Total	\$ -
(1931 collections - \$44.28)	
Amount of arrears outstanding	\$70.00
What steps taken to collect arrears? Distress proceedings have been undertaken in some cases. Good results have been secured.	

FINANCIAL STANDING AS AT Jan. 15, (1932.)	
Cash on hand	\$ 15.00
Cash in bank	\$ 2.00
Unpaid grants estimated	\$ 110.00
Estimated collections to end of year	-
Other sources of revenue, estimated	-
Notes falling due this year	\$ 60.00
Debt service coupons	-
Salaries unpaid	\$ 60.00
Other outstanding liabilities	\$ 86.00

I, Geo. L. Wilson, the undersigned Inspector of Schools, hereby certify that I have investigated the conditions in the White Land S.D. No. 4506, and because of the need for a first school building to be erected by voluntary labor - School has been operated in a temporary building in 1931 but the building is located far to one side of the district and dissatisfaction has resulted; only 40% of the pupils have enrolled. The only feasible course of action is to build a school on the approved site, - would recommend a Special Grant, in accordance with Sec. 27 of the School Grants Act, of \$ 200.00 - be paid to the aforementioned S.D. for the year 1932. .

Geo. L. Wilson
Inspector of Schools.

Land evaluation.

School Inspector, Georges L. Wilson, visited the locale and advised the ratepayers that a school should be built. This is his recommendation dated January 15, 1932. "I hereby certify that I have investigated the conditions in the Whiteland S.D. No 4506, and because of the need for a first school building to be erected by voluntary labor - School has been operated in a temporary building in 1931; only 40 percent of the pupils have enrolled. The only feasible course of action is to build a school on the approved site."

The approved site consisted of three acres given for that purpose by Mr. John Charest. In a letter dated September 2, 1930, the Deputy Minister of Education, J. T. Ross states; "Under the provisions of Section 70 of the School Act, I hereby approve the site selected by the Board of Trustees of the Whiteland School District No. 4506, of the Province of Alberta, comprising three acres, situated on the south-east quarter of Section 30, in Township 75, Range 20, West of the Fifth Meridian."



COPY OF MINUTES

Annual Meeting of Ratepayers of the Whiteland School District
No. 4506, held on 9th day of January 1932

- Mr. E. Rickard was elected chairman of the meeting. A. J. Curran was appointed Secretary. Meeting opened by Chairman at 8 P.M. With 30 ratepayers present.
1. Moved by B. H. Major, seconded by W. Brulotte that the Statement be adopted as read. Carried.
 2. Moved by W. Brulotte, seconded by R. Curran that W. Brulotte is not to receive any more money from the district other than that allowed by the School Act. Carried.
 3. Meeting closed for nominating trustees at 8 o'clock P.M.
 4. Moved by W. Brulotte, seconded by John Curran that Romeo Loiselle be elected trustee.
 5. Moved by A. J. Curran, seconded by John Charest that B. H. Major be elected trustee.
 6. Moved by W. Brulotte, seconded by A. Curran that Alcega Lambert be elected trustee.
 - Mr. Lambert does not accept the position of trustee.
 - Nominations closed at 8:30 o'clock P.M.
 - Poll for the election of trustee was made by ballot.
 - Romeo Loiselle obtained 11 votes.
 - B. H. Major obtained 5 votes.
 7. Moved by A. J. Curran, seconded by W. Brulotte that the Board look after the work of the school building to be done by voluntary labor. Carried.
 8. Resolution passed by all the ratepayers present 30 in number that a school house be built by voluntary labor in March 1932 and signed by all the ratepayers present.

E. Rickard, Chairman.

A. J. Curran, Secretary.

Courtesy of 8497, 55760



Lower: Irene Charest, Roseanna Brulotte, Alma Brulotte, Medora Brulotte, Lorilda Charest. Upper: Aldeo Major, Romeo Brulotte, Larry Charest, Henri Brulotte.

At the Whiteland School District No 4506 meeting of ratepayers held January 9, 1932, chaired by Mr. E. Rickard, a motion was passed by all ratepayers present, thirty in number, that a school house be built by voluntary labor in March 1932. This was signed by all the ratepayers present.

Public tenders went out for the position of construction superintendent, the only person to be paid. Mr. Jos Loiselle obtained the bid for \$30.00 but he stipulated that the work should not exceed twelve days of service. The Deputy Minister of Education was not agreeable to this clause and the tender went to Mr. P. Gagné of Vimy, AB.

"The building is made of 6x6 sawed logs with shingle roof, the roofing is two ply rough lumber with two ply of tar paper between the boards, the floor is one ply rough lumber and one ply spruce flooring. The building is on a cement foundation. The size of the contruction is 24 x 28 feet and built somewhat according to the log plan and results in a very fine building at low cost. The total cost of the building is \$210.35 including \$30.00 paid to the supervisor of the work". This description was given by Mr. Alcide Turcotte,

secretary-treasurer of the time. The other Board members were: Romeo Loiselle, B.H. Major and Jos. J. Bourgeois.

The school was ready for the students, nineteen of them, September 1932. Miss Mathieu returned as teacher and was no doubt very happy in her new, roomy school, and she made good use of it. The newspaper reported that a very successful Christmas concert was held, complete with a decorated pine tree and presents for the children. Funds for these extravagances had been raised at a social function held earlier in the year. Many visitors attended.

Progress must go on. At the 1933 annual rate-payers meeting a motion was passed for the building of a stable and an ice house to store blocks of ice for drinking water. Again, this was to be by voluntary labor. Mr. Napoleon Loiselle bid for the construction of the stable as well as the ice house. There was now a reasonably good set-up for education of the children of the district. The drawback now was the depression and the lack of money. Not much land was opened, crops frequently froze and the price of what little crops were harvested was very poor. It was almost impossible for the ratepayers to pay any taxes for the upkeep of the school and to pay the teachers' salary. The government gave grants of \$2.50 per teaching day and the local school district had to find the balance of the money. Teachers were paid only a part of their wages when term returns were sent to the Department of Education. At times, the teachers had no money to go home for Christmas or to attend Summer School to upgrade their own education.



School held in Mr. Willie Brulotte's home: R.1 Aldeo Major, Irene Charest, Romeo Brulotte. R.2 Bernadette Mathieu, teacher, Larry Charest, Henri Brulotte, Medora Brulotte, Lorilda Charest, Alma Brulotte, Roseanna Brulotte.

The situation was so bad that some teachers quit in Mid-term obliging the poor trustees to scout for a new teacher. In spite of all these hardships, many teachers came. Here is a list of these dedicated or maybe adventurous souls:

1931-33 Miss Bernadette Mathieu

1933-34 Miss Marcelle Lariviere (became Mrs. A.Rumpf) was paid \$60.00 a month. Stayed only eight months because the school district could not afford to pay her salary. She was still writing three years later to collect her wages.



Elphège Lafleur.



Donalda Lepage.



R.1 Melvin and Mervin Brulotte, Fred Shyburnia, Edward Charest. R.2 Rene Dlugosz, Luba Shyburnia, Rose Dupuis, Marie Charest, Germaine Brulotte. R.3 John Wawrzonek, Guy Brulotte, Jos Wawrzonek, Emile Dupuis, Pete Zesko. R.4 Micheline Brulotte, Thelma Brulotte, Raymond Charest. R.5 Jenny Zesko, Sirgey Shyburnia, Mr. Fraser, teacher, Jack Dupuis, John Abramovich, Annette Major.

1934-35 Mlle Lepage

1935-36 Mr. E. C. Lafleur of Vegreville, AB

1936-37 Miss Edna Robinson (became Mrs. Robert) of Marwayne, AB for a salary of \$700.00 a year. In 1941, four years later, she was still owed \$65.05 in arrears!! Mrs. Marie Brulotte was secretary-treasurer at the time.

1937-38 S.E. Crawford

1938-39 Mrs. Florence Barby

1939-40 Mrs. Campbell, Miss Madeleine Fortier (2 months). 34 students, some came from the Benoit school as this school had no teacher and was closed.

1940- Miss Laurel J. Penfound, (Oct.-Dec.)

In 1941 many of the problems of finance for the local trustees were over as the Whiteland School District no 4506 joined the regional McLennan School Division no 48. The central office was located in McLennan with Mr. E. C. Stehelin as school inspector. A teacherage, a 14 x 22 frame building was purchased from Mr. A.

Turcotte and paid by the McLennan School Division and moved to the school site.

1941-42 Inspector's report: Enrolment:- GR. 1,6 pupils, Gr.2, 4 pupils, Gr. 3,6 pupils

1941 A. W. Frazer, (May-July)

Nestor Tkachuk, (Oct.-Dec.)

1942 M. Evanuk, (Jan.-March)

John H. Murray, (March-June)

1943 Rev Bruce McKenzie, (Jan.-June)

1943-44 Miss Yvette Houde (See letter re: drinking water, 5 cents a pail or \$2.00 a month.)

1944-45 Correspondance Supervisors: Miss Marcelle Desaulniers (Sept. - Dec.), Miss Berthe Desaulniers (Jan. - June)

1945-46 Mrs. Cecile (Houde) Aubin

1946-47 Miss Yvette Majeau, Nov. to March. School closed in April. Mr. Ralph Bichel taught during May, June and July.

1947-48 Certain lands were withdrawn from

Whiteland S.D. no 4506 to form the new Langlois S.D. no 4943.

- 1947-57 Miss. Rita C. Turcotte who became Mrs. Raymond Benoit.
- 1957 Whiteland school closed and students were bussed to Langlois school
- 1958 Ministerial approval to the proposed sale of the Whiteland School and site. The school building was bought by Mr. W. Wawrzonek and later became a shop.
- 1960 Mr. B.H. Major's tender of \$31.00 was accepted for the Whiteland barn and ice house.
- 1976 The school site was for sale at \$50.00 an acre for three acres. It was bought by Kisic Dlugosz.



Whiteland School: Nick Shybungia, Henry Wawrzonek, Alphonse Brulotte, Pauline Abramovich, Yolande Delage, Beatrice Brulotte, Edward Charest, Victor Zesko, Kisic Dlugosz, Melvin and Mervin Brulotte, Irene Wawrzonek, Nina Shybungia, Mariette Delage, Ferd Shybungia, Rene Dlugosz.

WHITELAND 1943-44

by Yvette (Houde) Savarie

On Labour Day 1943 I arrived at Whiteland School to orient myself for the start of the new school year.

The building was at par with country schools of that time, (homemade desks to accommodate 24 students, a pot-belly heater in the centre of the building, and a woodbox as large as the stove, always full of firewood). One pail of water was allowed per day, for drinking, washing of hands and general clean-ups.

Whiteland School had grades 1 to 7, plus one student was taking grade 9 by correspondence. Most students walked to school, but two families with younger children used a team of horses and sleigh during the winter months. This brings to mind the day the public health nurse showed up

unannounced after lunch in January, for inoculations; Eddy Tokarz was first in line, he told the nurse that there were two younger children at home, and he was certain that it would be his parents' wish that they receive the shots, and he should go pick them up. After a very short conference it was agreed that he should be allowed to

*Mr. Shybungia
saw Yvette Benoit's
& told her to get water
@ 5¢ pail or 2¢
per mo. Forest View, Alberta
April 14, 1944*

Dear Mr. Inspector,

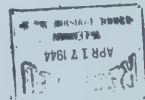
During last winter, this school, Whiteland, has had no ice. I suppose it was due to the difficulty for hauling it. We are now out of it, and absolutely no water is available.

Mrs. J. Charest (which I think would be the only place we can get some from) is willing to let us have some as long as she can get paid for it. We would need about two pails a day.

Waiting for your immediate attention.

I remain,

*Yours obediently
Yvette Houde*



Letter.



Benoit & Cecile Aubin and son Norman in front of Whiteland School teacherage, 1945.

NAMES OF PUPILS (Print Surnames First)		Age in Yrs.	Date of Birth	Address No. and Street Post Office	President (R) or Vice President (V)	Grade at beginning of school year
Wawrzonek	Irene	10	Dec. 10	Forest Road		X
Brulotte	Beatrice	12	Nov. 27	Forest Road		X
Delage	Mariette	12	June 25	Forest Road		VIII
Delage	Yvonne	12	July 22	Forest Road		VIII
Lusick	Stefek	12	June 1	Forest Road		VIII
Abramovich	Pauline	11	Oct. 1	Forest Road		VII
Major	Patricia	12	Oct. 6	Forest Road		VII
Zesko	Victor	12	Nov. 16	Forest Road		VII
Lusick	May Joy	12	Oct. 1	Forest Road		VII
Wawrzonek	Henry	12	Oct. 8	Forest Road		VII
Martel	Lucas	11	July 14	Forest Road		V
Brulotte	Alphonse	11	Oct. 1	Forest Road		V
Romanuk	Tony	9	April 22	Forest Road		IV
Womaniuk	Walter	11	Nov. 22	Forest Road		IV
Wawrzonek	Leo	10	April 25	Forest Road		IV
Zesko	Victoria	10	May 1	Forest Road		IV
Martel	Yvonne	10	April 12	Forest Road		IV
Bourgeois	Richard	10	April 11	Forest Road		IV
Delage	Louisa	9	April 30	Forest Road		IV
Kolihaba	Phyllis	8	Feb. 10	Forest Road		IV
Bourgeois	Rene	1	May 12	Forest Road		III
Martel	Jeannine	1	April 19	Forest Road		III
Kolihaba	Vicky	6	May 24	Forest Road		II
Wawrzonek	Helen	6	Nov. 9	Forest Road		II
Bourgeois	Andrew	6	May 1	Forest Road		I
Brulotte	Elaine	5	Jan. 1	Forest Road		I
Brulotte	Tuliette	6	Nov. 11	Forest Road		I
Brulotte	Lucien	4	Feb. 18	Forest Road		I
Romanuk	Helen	5	Dec. 11	Forest Road		I
Jindal	Juliana	4	June 4	Forest Road		I
Jardel	Alice	7	Jan. 1	Forest Road		I

Rita C. Zurek
(signature of teacher)

Whiteland register.



Christmas concert in Whiteland. Upper: Irene Wawrzonek, Rene Dlugosz, grandfather, Patricia Major, Victor Zesko in play "Radio becomes of age". Bottom: Mariette Delage singing: "The Old Rugged Cross".



Mrs. Rita Benoit in buggy built by Rene Bourgeois (13 yrs) with Yvonne, Rene, Andre and Emile Bourgeois.

Approximate Expenditures 1947

General Repairs = \$300.00
 A New Stove 75.00
 4 desk single readable 25.00
 Water tank 15.00
 Ice 10 tons =
 Sewer pumping =
 Fire wood 150.00
 Lumber book 30.00
 Puffs 3.60
 New paint & rollers 1.00
 Candles 1.50
 Ink Powder .50
 Sing Book Powder .50
 Water Color 1.00
 2 ea. 1 white & colored 1.50
 Composition Paper 1.35
 Tracing paper .50
 Writing paper 3.00
 Scribbles 5.00
 Manila tag 1.00
 Plasterine .50
 Scrap books 2.50
 Soap .50
 Miscellaneous school items such
 as brushes, tacks, screws, etc. 5.00

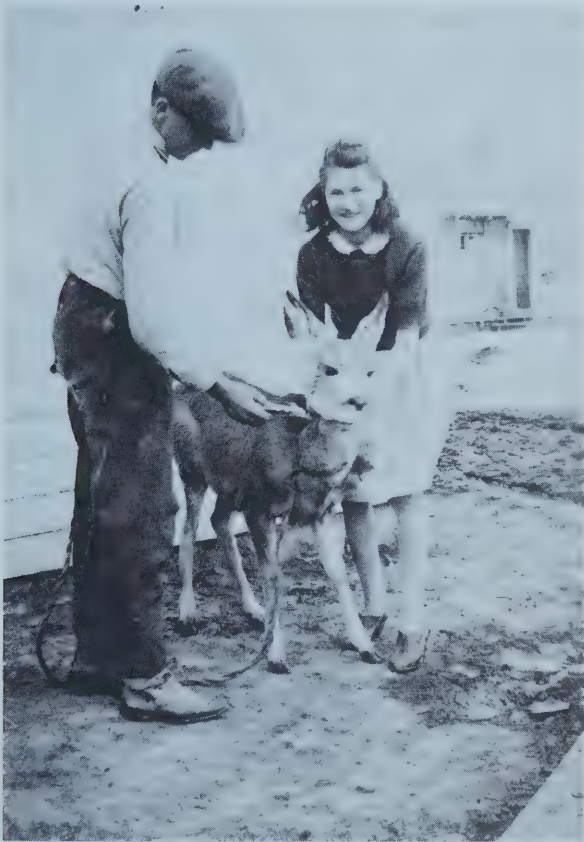
Total Amount \$803.95

Benoit Benoit, sec.
Teacher's salary not included

List of items for school.

do so. (a distance of 4 to 5 miles). The nurse patiently waited till 4.30 p.m. It was getting dark both outside and inside, as there was no lighting provided for the school. Just as we were going to give up, Ed showed up with his charges. A very happy ending for everyone concerned.

My stay in the area was a pleasant experience and brings back fond memories.



Eddy Tokarz and Mona with pet deer.

WHITELAND SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 1, 1947 TO JUNE 30, 1956

by Rita C. Benoit (nee Turcotte), teacher

My recollections of Whiteland School are chock-full of happy memories. The hardships of living in isolation for nine years were more than compensated by many joyful times.

The one-room, little white school was made of hewn logs covered with drop-siding and was situated in the heart of nature. It was half a mile from the Forest View post-office which was in Mr. Aurele Lambert's home.

Inside, the floor of the school was constructed of "shiplap" lumber displaying wide cracks between each board. The double and some single desks were screwed onto 1" X 4" strips of lum-

ber. The stove was made of a large drum with legs of strap-iron bolted on the drum. (One leg kept coming off!). The cloakroom was a mere three-foot wide space partitioned off by a dividing wall. The fountain was a five gallon crock.

Outside, the yard was bedecked with two out-houses, an old dilapidated barn complete with a hay-loft, an ice-house, and the teacherage which was a stone's throw away from the school.



Rita Turcotte.

During my stay at Whiteland School the place was alive with wonderful students and parents. The family names I recall were: Charest, Bourgeois, Dlugosz, Wawrzonek, Zesko, Ronmaniuk, Kolibaba, Abramovich, Shybunia, Major, Caux, Delage, Brulotte, Desharnais, Bastien, Lusch, Olsen, Tokarz, and Lemay.

I taught Grade one to Grade ten preparing several different lessons for one day and checking books late into the night. The spirit was one of co-operation and naturalness. It was like one big family with teacher, older and younger students sharing and all feeling needed.

After school, I taught the Grade nine students Algebra because school-time was not sufficient to cover this subject thoroughly. It was a relaxing time because we brightened up the dead subject with jokes and laughs.

Music was taught with the use of "tonettes" and I remember my students outdoing their teacher in a very short time.

French (A.C.F.A.) was taught to all for an hour a day and provincial exams from Grade three up were kindly supervised and mailed out by Mr. Aurele Lambert, postmaster. Wild Alberta roses decorated the classroom on that day.

Our gymnasium was the great outdoors where the teacher was as anxious to play as the students. Outdoor games, soft-ball, volleyball, and soccer were the summer favorites. We tra-

velled by horse-drawn wagons and later by cars to other schools to compete in Track-meets. It was always exciting and the class spirit was soaring. In winter we played hockey on Mr. Charest's pond. Mr. Charest, himself, nearly seventy years old, was "the" goal-tender with a grain shovel for a goaler-stick! What a dear soul! Pucks were no problem – there was always plenty of frozen horse-dung around.

Science hikes were taken by horse and wagon as far as Smoky River banks south of Mr. Duguay's. Sighting bears added that extra thrill.

School films were shown a couple times a year by Mr. Albertine, employee of High Prairie School Division. The room was darkened by covering the windows with black tar paper. The excitement was high!

The Junior Red Cross club was very active and instrumental in carrying out activities to raise money for the less fortunate. For a while we had a Grade Nine school barber who gave a "Top-grade" haircut during noon-hour for 25 cents. Barber? I believe it was Rene Dlugosz or was it John Wawrzonek?

The rooster-shoots in the fall, the dances, the box-socials brought parents and students together and also raised money for Christmas gifts to be given at the Christmas concert. Musicians; Melvin Brulotte (violinist) and Delphis Brulotte (accordion) played without pay, most of the time, for our school dances which started at nine p.m. and finished at 3 a.m. Everyone enjoyed dancing the waltz, the fox-trot, the two-step, the polkas, and the quadrilles.

Christmas concerts were the highlight of the year and required many hours of practice and making costumes. Each child had to be in several different numbers. One year the concert was shown for two successive nights to a full school-house. Santa always made his appearance from a different place which kept the children guessing. There was one Santa who waited for two hours in the attic and came down on ropes!

Arbor Day always meant a thorough clean-up inside the school and out in the yard. I remember the great fire-fighters armed with wet sacks when a grass-fire got away on us and burned down the old fence around Mr. Charest's pig pen. Kizic Dlugosz made a good foreman!

During that era of the country school, the teacher had the use of the teacherage in return for the janitor work. Consequently, I swept the school floor every evening. The cracks in the floor made it difficult and dusty to sweep. I had to make dustbane with oily sawdust. The School Division oiled the plank floor once a year to keep

the dust down. The hardest task, however, was sawing wood with a bucksaw and splitting the huge blocks so they would fit in the air-tight heater of the teacherage. As for getting the huge blocks of ice from the ice-house, I solicited the help of the older boys at school. In winter, I melted the snow in a large barrel for laundry purposes. In order to heat the school on cold winter days, I rose at 6:30 a.m. to start the fire in the old barrel stove. Even so, the ink was still frozen in the ink-wells when school started. The teacherage had a wood cook-stove as well as the air-tight heater. This meant getting up during the night to re-fuel the fire. A kerosene lamp or later, a gas lantern was the only source of light. The toilet was the same outhouse the children used. Looking back, now, I realize that one had to be young and healthy to meet the challenge.

School without pranks is rather dull, so a few of them were accepted with snickers---who left the room pretending they were heading for the outhouse but instead went to plug Mr. Shybungia's caboose chimney with snowball? Who pushed who into the creek when they went rafting after school with their teacher and got home wetter



Hair Saloon: Rene Dlugosz cutting Rene Bourgeois's hair to raise funds for Red Cross.

than a noodle?---Who put mice in the girls' overshoes and frogs down someone's neck?---Who was terrified at the weird noises they heard in the teacherage when the teacher sent them to get a book? Four were!

Those were fascinating days and I treasure the experience. May God bless the admirable students I had the pleasure to be with in Whiteland School.



Rita Turcotte and Raymond Benoit's wedding reception held in Whiteland School.

* * *

Ecole Whiteland

par Cecile Aubin

En 1931 plusieurs familles sont installées dans la région au sud est de ce qui est aujourd'hui le hameau de Guy. Les parents d'enfants d'âge scolaire réalisent la nécessité d'obtenir une école. Un conseil scolaire est formé de: M. Alcide Turcotte, secrétaire-trésorier, M. Roméo Loiselle, M. Benoit Major et M. Jos Bourgeois. Ce conseil obtient la permission du Ministère de l'Education d'ouvrir une salle de classe dans la demeure de M. et Mme. W. Brulotte qui ont gracieusement offert l'usage de leur salle à dîner y compris le chauffage, l'eau et le service d'un concierge pour la somme de \$8.00 par mois.

Il est évident que la maison de M. Brulotte devient encombrée avec sa propre famille, les enfants des voisins fréquentant la classe et le professeur qui loge et prend ses repas là.

Le Surintendant, M. Georges L. Wilson visite le local et recommande qu'une école soit construite sur le site réservé à cet effet.

M. J. Charest avait désigné trois acres sur son terrain pour la future école. A l'assemblée annuelle, le 9 janvier 1932, les trente-deux contribuables présents votent à l'unanimité de construire l'école par travail bénévole; seul le contremaître sera payé. La soumission de M. Loiselle (\$30.00) est acceptée pour ce poste; mais quand ce dernier exige que le travail soit complété en douze jours, le contrat est donné à M. Gagné de Vimy. Le coût total de la bâtisse est de \$210.00, y compris le \$30.00 payé à M. Gagné.

La construction fut terminée pour la rentrée des classes en septembre 1932 et Mlle Mathieu revient comme professeur pour une deuxième année.

En 1933 la Commission Scolaire autorise la construction d'une écurie et d'une glacière. La soumission de M. Loiselle est acceptée et le travail se fait encore sans rémunération par les contribuables.

Il y a progrès à la petite école de Whiteland; mais c'est aussi la crise économique. Les pauvres colons ne peuvent payer leurs taxes scolaires à cause du manque de récoltes et du bas prix du grain. Il n'y a pas même assez de revenus pour payer les salaires des professeurs. Le gouvernement donne un octroi de \$2.50 par jour de classe, mais c'est loin d'être suffisant. Ça devient très difficile de trouver et surtout de garder des instituteurs.

En 1941 le district scolaire Whiteland no 4506 est incorporé dans la grande unité scolaire de McLennan no 48 sous la surintendance de M.E.C. Stebelin. Dorénavant celui-ci s'occupera de la finance et de l'embauchage des enseignants.

Une petite maisonnette est achetée de M. Alcide Turcotte et est déménagée près de l'école pour loger les enseignants.

1947-48: Certains quarts de sections sont retirés du district de Whiteland afin de former le nouveau district scolaire Langlois no 4943.

1947-57: Mlle Rita Turcotte (Mme Raymond Benoit) enseigne pendant dix années.

1957- L'école Whiteland ferme ses portes et les élèves voyagent par autobus scolaire à l'école Langlois à Guy.

1958- Le Ministère de l'Education accepte la vente de l'école Whiteland. M. Walter Wawrzonek l'achète et elle est déménagée chez-lui pour devenir un atelier.

1960- L'écurie et la glacière sont achetées par M. B. Major au prix de \$31.00.

1976- Les trois acres (site de l'école) sont achetés par M. Kisic Dlugosz.

BENOIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 4706

by Cecile Houde Aubin

Already in 1928 some of the residents of the area six miles south of Donnelly were petitioning the Department of Education for the formation of a school district. The problem at this time seemed to be that the residents were not unan-



GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Peace River, March 24, 1936.

Sir :

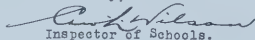
Re. Benoit S.D.No.4706

In personal interview with the chairman of the board of trustees, I have found that it has not been possible to secure voluntary effort in erecting a school building, and now there is so little snow in the district that there is no chance to secure logs this year. There is a special difficulty in this district which arises from their being two groups of settlers, French and Ukrainian; the latter are in the majority. And, perhaps due to failure of the two groups to have a common language for communication with each other, co-operation has not been possible to date.

The chairman is very anxious to have school operated and he is moving a building, 18 by 24, to the school site, or within a few yards of it; the site is on his land. This building will be given free for school purposes until a proper school can be erected next winter. I may say that I have examined the building - a log structure which was built in 1935 and used during the winter for housing chickens. It will be thoroughly cleaned, mudded outside and inside and whitewashed. Additional logs will be placed under it to provide a ten-foot ceiling. It will be made suitable for a temporary school, in cleanliness, floor space, air space and lighting.

There is no money available for equipment. The tax notices are being mailed, but the people are not in a position to pay taxes until later in the year. Kindly authorize a special grant of \$50.00 to assist in securing of equipment. I trust that I may hear from you at an early date. The grant cheque should be forwarded to me.

Yours faithfully,


Inspector of Schools.

Mr. E.L.Fuller,
Chief Inspector,
Department of Education.

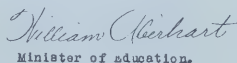
GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

REFER TO FILE NO.

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

May 7, 1936.

Upon the recommendation of Mr. G. L. Wilson,
Inspector of schools, Peace River, Alberta,
and under the authority vested in me by Section
27 of the school grants Act, I hereby authorize
the payment of a special grant to the Benoit
S.D. No. 4706 of the Province of Alberta, to the
amount of fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for the year
1936.


Minister of education.

imous in their decision of where the limits of the school district should be. Some ratepayers close to the Donnelly- Leblanc school district wanted to join the Donnelly Consolidated No. 66 School District, others wanted a separate new district. There was already a two room school in operation in Donnelly for grades 1 to 8 and a convent

was being built to take in boarders. Many letters were exchanged between the area residents and the Department of Education.

Some years later, Mr. Emile Johnson realized that a school was sorely needed in the area. Having made his demand to the proper authorities, he received his reply. One is surprised at the speed of the mail; five days later a meeting was called to elect a Chairman and a secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Aurele Benoit had previously given a few acres of land on NW ¼ of section 19, Twp.76 range 20, W5, for a school site, which explains the naming of the school district, Benoit. Finally by March 1936 action for a school was taken by Inspector Georges L. Wilson of Peace River.

To purchase equipment the then Minister of Education, William Aberhart, authorized a grant of \$50.00.

On March 24th, 1937 an additional grant of \$31.20 was authorized by the Manager of School Grants Branch., for May and April.

In 1939 a new problem arose: only six students are left in the school district to attend the school. On the recommendation of the School Inspector, Mr. E. C. Stehelin, now residing in McLennan, the school was closed. Arrangements were made to permit these students to attend school elsewhere: Gertrude and Irene Benoit at Donnelly Consolidated School No. 66, Irene and Robert Olshawnowski to attend Edgehill School and for Paul and Olga Zesko to attend the White-land School. This for the period November 1939 to June 30, 1940.

In January 1941 the Benoit School District joined the McLennan School Division No. 48, now with its regional office in McLennan. The financial problems were over as the maintenance



Left of Benoit School is small dwelling used by Cecile Houde as teacherage (1941-44). Sunday guests: R.1 Yvonne Houde, Marcella Houde, Edward Servant, Yvette Houde, Aurelus Servant, Alfred Houde, Cecile Houde, Paul Houde, Alphonse Houde. R.2 Mrs. A. Houde, Mrs. Alfred Houde, Mrs. A. Servant.

of the school as well as the teacher's salary (\$80.00 per month) were now paid by the School Division. The chicken house was once more put into operation for the current school year with the understanding that a new school building would be erected for the following school year. Miss Cecile Houde, the 1941-42 teacher found herself in a surprising situation. The log building was meant to accommodate about twelve pupils. By October of that year there were over 30 students registered. So to solve the space problem, half of the students attended class in the forenoon and the other half attended in the afternoon. It was a rather unusual situation. The parents co-operated well and it proved to be a successful school year. Children coming to school on horseback or by horse drawn cutters



R.1 Hector Labbé, Rock Gosselin, Roland Labbé, Albert Benoit, Katie Vrkljan, Lucille Gosselin. R.2 Lucienne Pelletier, Lucette Pelletier, Rita Olshanowski, Josephine Vrkljan, Lois Pelletier. R.3 Jos LEmay, Paul Zesko, Adolphe Lemay, Jean Gosselin, Laurent Pelletier, Roland Lemay. R.4 Irène Benoit, Olga Zesko, Irene Olshanowski, Marie Lemay, John Abramovich, Robert Olshanowski.



R.1 Laurent Pelletier, Jos Lemay, Adolphe Lemay. R.2 Marie Rose Lachance, Benoit Lachance, Thérèse Lachance. R.3 Cécile Houde, Irene Olshanowski, Aimé Lemay, Chantal Lafleur, Marie Lemay, Paul Lemay, Albert Charest, Sylvio Benoit.

or buggies would stable their animals at the two neighbors', Mr. Eugene Lemay and Mr. Aurele Benoit's barns, then walk a quarter of a mile to school. This was also the year that a big brown bear came to the school grounds and insisted on frolicking with the children. It was learned later that a Donnelly resident had taken the cub at a very young age and had tamed it. The young animal would ride on the back of Mr. Gauthier's bike most everywhere he went. This was fine until the animal became older and returned to his



Rachel Houde, Cécile Houde 1941-42.



Benoit School #4706: R.1 Nelson Lachance, Rock Gosselin. R.2 Tony Romaniuk, Madeleine Gosselin, Lauriane Pelletier, Marie Gosselin, Guy Gosselin, Laurier Pelletier, Levis Pelletier, Florence Fortier, Gaetane Lachance. R.3 Georgette Fortier, Helene Gosselin, Lauriat Pelletier, Walter Romaniuk, Rene Fortier, Benoit Gosselin. R.4 Jacqueline Lachance, Lucille Gosselin, Mrs. McMurtry, Anita Lachance, Lucienne Pelletier, Helen Cirka, Jenny Cirka.

more natural ways. Because it now showed a mean streak, Mr. Gauthier returned the animal to the woods many miles from his home but near enough to the school that it was attracted by the children playing outside. Having known civilization, the bear no doubt, wanted to frolic with the youngsters. The teacher hurriedly called the children indoors and called for help as soon as the bear had disappeared from the premises. Several hunters obliged and the bear was never seen again.

As promised a new school building was erected for the fall of 1942. Mr. Desaulniers was the contractor. Benoit School operated till 1957.



R.1 Marie Gosselin, Guy Gosselin, Madeleine Gosselin, Gaetane Lachance, Florence Fortier, Laurier Pelletier, Levis Pelletier, Lauriane Pelletier. R.2 Walter Romaniuk, Georgette Fortier, Hélène Gosselin, Helen Cirka, Benoit Gosselin, Lauriat Pelletier, Tony Romaniuk, René Fortier. R.3 Jenny Cirka, Rita Olshanowski, Lucille Gosselin, Anita Lachance, Lucienne Pelletier, Jacqueline Lachance, Nelson Lachance, Rock Gosselin.



Edgehill School converted to grain bin by John Chaibos.

THE BENOIT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 4706 Teacher Lists 1936–1957

Henry J. Robert — July 14, 1936 – June 30, 1937

Miss Winifred M. Seymour — September, 1937 – April 21, 1938 (June 30, 1938)

Mrs. J. Koculyn — August 15, 1938 – June 30, 1941

Cecile Houde — September, 1941 – July 15, 1944

Gertrude Cote — October 2, 1944 – July 6, 1945

Rita Boulet — September, 1945 – December 31, 1945

Helen M. Roux — January, 1946 – June 30, 1946

Felix E. Cote — December 2, 1946 – June 30, 1947

Ina Phalempin — October 7, 1947 – December 31, 1947

Eleanor McMurtry — May 3, 1948 – June 30, 1948 and July and August, 1948

Victoria Boehm — September, 1948 – June 30, 1949

Germaine Pittman — September, 1949 – June 30, 1950

Sylvain D. LeFebvre — September, 1950 – June 30, 1955

Yvette Michael — September, 1955 – June 30, 1957



Mrs. Melonia Caron.

EDGEHILL (JASON) SCHOOL NO 4714

by Helen Chaibos

When the first pioneers settled in the area south-west of what is now known as Guy, there was no school in that district. Some settlers tried to get a school district established, but there was quite a bit of opposition within the district. This area was settled by quite a number of bachelors, some of whom were World War I veterans. As



Edgehill School 1948–49. Margaret Money, Helen Sawchyn, ??, ??, Jacqueline Sullivan.

they had no children, they opposed the formation of a School District, as they would have had to pay extra taxes, and during the depression

years of the 1930's, this would have been quite a hardship.

On September 5th, 1935, a "Petition for the Formation of a Public School District" was submitted to the Department of Education, naming the School District "Jason" (Jasmin-Caron), named after two families who lived in the district.

That same fall, Mrs. Melonia (Fred) Caron, being a school teacher, set up a classroom in her house, located at S.E. ¼-4-76-21-W5th. She taught her own children, as well as other children of the district. The courses were taught by correspondence, until a School District was officially established, and a teacher officially appointed. Mrs. Caron volunteered her time and labor. Mr. and Mrs. Caron supplied the classroom and firewood "free". The benches had been supplied by some of the parents of the district.

The Jason School District was officially established on January 6th, 1936, by order of the Minister of Education, after two decisive adverse votes. Mr. George L. Wilson, Inspector of Schools, had been appointed Official Trustee to administer the affairs of the school. He was later replaced by School Inspector J.W. Gillies of McLennan.

On February 24th, 1936, a school register, and a contract for an annual salary of \$720.00 was issued to Mrs. Caron. At that time the school was entitled to a certain amount of equalization grants. The grants for three months amounted to \$85.40.

The student enrollment at the Jason School at that time was 14 students. The attendance had been rather irregular, namely for two reasons: the Jason School was located at the most northerly part of the District, and the children who lived at the southern end had a considerable distance to walk or travel. Some students walked a distance of 6 miles. Lack of good roads in the southern part of the District was the second reason. After walking for several miles, the students, some of whom were only 6 years old, had to remove their boots, wade through a slough, knee-deep in water. When they reached the other side, they put on their boots and continued to walk the rest of the distance to the Jason School.

STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED JASON SCHOOL – 1936 & 1937:

Caron, Rita	Jasmin, Frank
Caron, Roderick	Jasmin, Marie
Chaibos, Joe	Lacourse, Albert
Dupuis, Eleanor	Lacourse, Clare
Dupuis, Emile	Minarovich, Annie
Dupuis, Jack	Minarovich, Emma

Dupuis, Leonard

Jasmin, Gerard

Gagnon, Donald

Minarovich, Johnny

Reid, Ivan

Reid, Norman

Mr. William H. (Jock) Ford, a district resident, was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Jason School by the Deputy Minister on December 21st, 1936.

The residents of the Jason School District were not happy with the location of the school, so decided that a new school should be built in a more centralized location. They also wanted to have their own locally appointed Board of Trustees.

A school site was chosen, and Mr. Nick Andriowski donated a parcel of land in the N.E. corner of S.E. ¼-28-75-21-W5th. This school property was located beside a creek.

On November 19, 1937, a meeting was held to change the name of "Jason S.D. no 4714" to "Creekside". This was accepted by a vote of 20 to 8. As there already was a school in the province by the name of "Creekside", the residents were asked by the Department of Education to submit another name. The names submitted were: Pineridge, Pinegrove, Edgehill and Wise-wood. The name "Edgehill" was chosen, but the School District was not officially changed until September 8th, 1938, when the new school was almost completed.

The first locally appointed Board of Trustees were elected on January 18th, 1938, and were: Mr. Jim Gruber, Mr. Abe Sidoroff and Mr. Nick Andriowski.

After several meetings, sufficient spruce logs had been cut and pulled out by volunteers to make 15,000 feet of lumber. These logs were later hauled and sawed into 6" X 6" square logs at St. Martin's sawmill, which was located on a flat near Little Smoky River. Fifty dollars had also been collected from the district residents to pay for sawing.

Erection of the school began in June 1938. Mr. Stanley Olshanowski was the main carpenter and was helped by many local residents. Most of these people volunteered their labor. Some offered their labor to be applied against their taxes. A log building 20' X 30', and 11 feet from floor to ceiling, was erected. The logs were held together with wooden dowels, with moss for insulation. The roof was covered with wooden shingles.

As money was very scarce, Mr. Stehelin, the School Inspector, had a hard time to convince Mr. Andriowski, a school committee member, that a \$50.00 per M fir flooring was too expensive for the district's financial standing. Mr. Andriowski's main point was to have a good floor for dancing. (In those days the schools were

also used for community social functions). The floor, of course, was then built out of spruce lumber.

A government grant of \$150.00 was paid when the school was almost completed and built to certain specifications. Some of that grant money was used to purchase school equipment. The school was furnished with a wood-burning heater, desks, cupboards for books, a wash-stand and two cloak rooms.

The new school was finally completed and opened on November 1st, 1938. It remained a log building for a few more years and then was finished with a lumber siding on the outside, and tintex (a type of wallboard) was applied to the walls and ceiling inside. At that time a brick chimney was also built by Mr. Wilfred Auger.

Mrs. Melonia Caron was the first teacher at the new Edgehill School. She also did the janitor work during that time. Later, the janitor work was done by one of the students, Joe Chaibos, for \$12.00 per month. The fire had to be started in the heater early enough so that the school would be warm when the students arrived in the morning. The water pail had to be filled, and a day's supply of wood brought in. In the wintertime, snow had to be shovelled also. After school, the floors had to be swept, the blackboard cleaned, and the waste basket emptied.

The second Board of Trustees were elected on January 18th, 1939, and were: George Vowden, Harry Restall — Secretary Treasurer, and Nick Andriowski.

That same winter an ice house (a building 16' X 18') was built out of spruce logs. Blocks of ice were cut with a hand saw from the Little Smoky River by volunteers. This ice was hauled and placed in the ice house. A heavy layer of sawdust was then put around the ice. This ice would keep well into the summer. When needed, a block would be taken out, smashed with an axe into smaller pieces and brought in to melt. This was the classroom's supply of drinking water.

In the summer of the same year a crude barn was built out of one-inch rough lumber for the students to house their horses, as some students travelled to school on horse-back, by cutter or caboose. As that barn was very cold, Mr. Andriowski's log barn was used instead. (By that time Mr. Andriowski had already left the area, so his buildings were vacant.) His house was used as a teacherage by the second teacher, Mrs. Barby, who came to teach at Edgehill, as it was a few years later before a teacherage was built.

Ballater, Alberta
July 11, 1946

Dear Mr. Herman,

Please, how soon may I leave this place? Just when did you plan on closing the school? Education is not needed here. Nor are good teachers appreciated. Humph. And don't you dare shake a contract at me, either. I want my mama.

No need for you to come rushing out to look for the trouble. I just want to know how soon I can shake the dust off my feet. I am getting along fine, oh yes, yes, fine.

If one more father lifts his voice above the customary screech, I shall not wait for your reply to this, but my address will be Sedgewick.

In other words, I am fed up, I am sick and tired of teaching. I am lonesome. Please, when may I leave? And if you ignore this letter as you have the last dozen beautiful epistles that I have sent your way, why I guess I'll just have somebody new to cuss at.

Yours disrespefully,

a teacher

And when I do go, do I have to fill out BOTH of these

lovely brown term return magazines?



STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED THE EDGEHILL SCHOOL, AND THE YEAR IN WHICH THEY FIRST CAME:

1938 - 1940:

Emma Minarovich	Mary Minarovich
Robert Olshanowski	Joseph Chaibos
Irene Olshanowski	Johnny Minarovich
Gerard Jasmin	Donald Gagnon
James Gruber	Roderick Caron
Lily Minarovich	Grace Gagnon
Charlotte Vowden	Ed Tokarz
Frank Jasmin	Mona Tokarz
Marie Jasmin	Therese Jasmin
Rita Caron	

1942 - 1943

Dupuis, Emile
Dupuis, Jack
Dupuis, Rose
Todor, Edward
Todor, Helen
Todor Mervyn
Dupuis Elmer

1943 - 1944

Sidoroff, Walter
Chaibos, Walter
Dupuis, Juliette
Minarovich, Mona
Winnicky, Roger

1944 - 1945

Dupuis, Benjamin
Gagnon, Richard
Gruber, Edith
Hnajtko, Joe
Servant, Cecilia
Sidoroff, Maurice

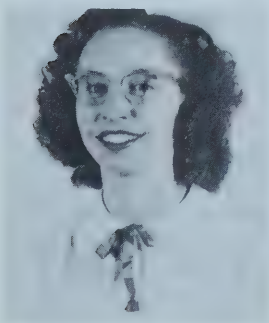
1945 - 1946

1948 – 1949 Money, Margaret
Sullivan, Jacklyn
1950 – 1951 Gruber, Frank
Winnicky, Andy
Winnicky, Jack
Winnicky, Robert
1951 – 1952 Moses, Wayne
Sidoroff, Mary
Waltbauer, Pamela
1952 – 1953 Gagnon, Alice
Gagnon, James
Sawchyn, Wm. Peter
Shannon, Allan
Shannon, Denis
1953 – 1954 Hart, Elaine Joy
Sawchyn, Annette
Sidoroff, Nick Jr.
1954 – 1955 Aubin, Evelyn
Aubin, Lorraine
Sidoroff, Gwen
Winnicky, Anna
1955 – 1956 Menzies, Brenda
Menzies, Wm. Riley
Sidoroff, Nellie
1956 – 1957 May, Steven

* * *

**THE EDGEHILL SCHOOL DISTRICT
No. 4714
(formerly the Jason School District)
Teacher Lists 1936–1958**

Melonia Caron — January, 1936 – June 30, 1941
Florence M. Barby — September, 1941 – July 14, 1944
Jeanette Lagosse — October, 1944 – December 31, 1944
Mary Lee Huska — March 12, 1945 – July 6, 1945
Mrs. Yvette Michael — September, 1945 – December 31, 1945
Doris Davis — May 2, 1946 – July 26, 1946
Mrs. Emily Rowbottom — September, 1946 – June 30, 1947
Geraldine Lewis — September, 1947 – December 31, 1947



Mlle Marie Jasmin, 1948.

Jean Fraser-Smith — May 3, 1948 – June 30, 1948; (School closed January – May) and July, 1948 – August, 1948
Mrs. G. Hillie Sullivan — September, 1948 – June 30, 1949
Mrs. Ruby A. Waltbauer — September, 1949 – June 30, 1950
Melonia Caron — October 30, 1950 – June 30, 1951
Mrs. Ruby Waltbauer — October 5, 1951 – June 30, 1953
Mrs. Velma Hart — September, 1953 – June 30, 1954
Mrs. Bernadette Cote — September 17, 1954 – February 28, 1955
Mrs. Marie Gagnon — March 7, 1955 – June 30, 1955 and September, 1955 to June 30, 1956
Roger Winnicky — September, 1956 – June 30, 1957
Ada E. Birkholder — September, 1957 – June 30, 1958

Pupils are now attending school at the Langlois School District No. 4943.

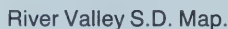
During the summer holidays of 1941, after the parents had been notified ahead of time, a mobile medical clinic arrived at the Edgehill School. There was a doctor, a dentist and several interns and nurses. In those days the medical profession believed that tonsils played no useful part in a person's body, and sooner or later would cause problems to an individual. That day the parents arrived with wagons and their children (students). The school was partitioned with sheets into examining rooms, where the children were examined. Then one by one they went to a mobile trailer, which was parked next to the school, they were made to lie on a stretcher, cloroform was applied to their nostrils, and then some greenhorn intern practiced his "operation tonsillectomy". When the students revived from the anesthetic, they were placed in the wagons and taken home. This is how most students at Edgehill lost their tonsils. There was no follow-up care. No one came around to see how these patients fared out after their tonsillectomies.

In the early 1940's the winters were very cold, and on such cold days, classes were held around the wood-burning heater, as the perimeter of the classroom was very cold. A lunch kit in those days was a 4-pound jam or lard can, with a piece of haywire attached for a handle. By the time the children arrived at school, after walking for several miles, their lunches were frozen.

Activities at recess and during the noon-hour were: playing tag, or there was a snowball fight (usually boys against the girls) in the wintertime. In summer there was see-saw, baseball, hop-

Perhaps the struggles and hardships have been forgotten, but the good times continue to

As some of the children were of school age, their education was a problem that had to be addressed. The only solution was for Little

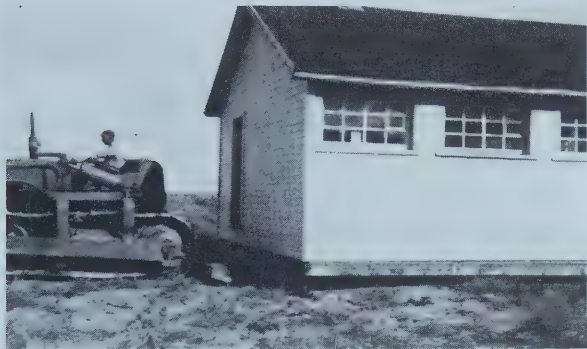


As there was no hope of hiring a professional teacher, it was arranged to operate as a correspondence school with a teaching supervisor. Until one could be found, Leo Hamson was drafted into that job also, being relieved of all other duties except tending the livestock and milking cows. The school opened the first week of October 1946, starting out with nine pupils, five of

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whom spoke no English. At that time the government paid an annual salary of \$300.00 which in Hamson's case was turned over to the Company.

A supervisor from "outside" was enticed to come, and Miss Gerry Lewis relieved Hamson on March 1, 1947. She finished the term to June 30, but did not return in the fall, going instead to another school in the area. Vivian Pacaud, wife of one of the company partners, took over the supervision from September 1947 until the end of June 1948. In September 1948 it was taken over by Inez Bullen. Except for a brief interlude when the school had to close, she was a highly successful and very popular teacher for the next six years, until 1954. The closure occurred when the neighbors were invited to bring their children to the new residential school at Guy, thus dropping enrollment below the minimum required for funding. Mrs. Bullen continued to teach the remaining children in her own home without pay.



Provincial Archives of Alberta #A14322. Fred Bullen moving River Valley School to a new location.

However, it was not long before a delegation of neighbors arrived. Citing their dissatisfaction with arrangements at Guy, they pleaded for the re-opening of River Valley School. They agreed to help with more improvements if their children could be allowed to return. Before long the school was back in operation, better than before, and again under the tutelage of Inez Bullen, to the great delight of everyone.

When the Hamson family departed in December 1951 and moved into High Prairie, Fred Bullen assumed the office of Official Trustee. In order to qualify for better funding and have more space for an adequate schoolyard, he negotiated a lease with Felix Desharnais for a corner of his farm directly across the road, and then he moved the school with the bulldozer. Many other improvements were made, such as buying a film projector.

In the fall of 1954, Mrs. Cecile Aubin took over as a qualified teacher until the school finally closed for good in 1955. This historic building survives today as a workshop on a farm many miles away. Although the physical presence may be gone, the great impact that this pioneer school, created by a small band of war veterans



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo #A14288. River Valley School. R.1 Ted Turner, Carol Bullen, Rollande Duguay, Vicky Wright, Jacques Desharnais, Gilles Desharnais, Rolland Desharnais. R.2 Bob Bullen, Marcel Duguay, Ron Bullen, Pierrette Desharnais, Irene Desharnais, Inez Bullen, Francoise Desharnais, Jean-Paul Duguay, Marielle Drouin, Fernand Desharnais.

and their wives, had on the community will be long remembered by those who passed through its door.

The River Valley School District No. 4938 Teacher Lists 1946-1956

Laughlin Leo Hamson — October 7, 1946 – December 20, 1946

Geraldine Lewis — February 26, 1947 – June 27, 1947

Vivian F. Pacaud — September 2, 1947 – December, 1948

Mrs. Inez M. Bullen — January 7, 1949 – June 30, 1949; September 8, 1949 – October 27, 1949; and September, 1950 – June 30, 1954

Miss Mary McKay — October 28, 1949 – December 8, 1949

Mrs. Cecile Aubin — September, 1954 – June 30, 1955

Inez Marie Bullen — September 14, 1955 – June 30, 1956

Pupils now attending school at the Langlois School District No. 4943.

LANGLOIS SCHOOL #4943

researched by Cecile Aubin and written by Françoise Dechief

The High Prairie School Division extends from the village of Slave Lake on the east to the Little Smoky River on the west. The division is divided into 5 subdivisions which in turn are divided into school districts. Each subdivision is represented on the board by a trustee elected for a period of three years. Subdivision 2 includes Smithreade #4685, Langlois #4943, Donnelly #3738, and McLennan #3382.

The School Districts centralised at Langlois School were: Ballater #4256, Alexandre #4991, Benoit #4706, Edgehill #4714, Villemarie #5103, Luro #5082, River Valley #4938, Whiteland #4506, Langlois #4943, and south of the Little Smoky River; Smithreade #4685, Puskwaskaw #5108, Aubindale #5121, Dorisville #4764, Sandman #5190.

BISHOP UBALD LANGLOIS

by René Bélanger, o.m.i.

from Dictionnaire Biographique des Missionnaires O.M.I. de Gaston Carrière, o.m.i.

Ubald Langlois was born at Bourget, Ontario, January 24, 1897 of Joseph-Edmond Langlois and Eugénie Ménard.



Bishop Langlois, after whom the Guy school was named.

Ubald joined the Missionary Oblates on September 7, 1907 at Lachine, Que., where he did his noviciate. Sent to Rome for his Theological studies, he took his final commitment in the Oblate Order on September 8, 1909 at Roviano Italy. Reasons of poor health brought him back to Canada to complete his studies in Ottawa where he was ordained priest June 6, 1914.

Ubald's first ministry was in Edmonton, as teacher at Saint-Jean juniorate in 1915. He then became assistant-director of the western paper "Patriote de l'Ouest" from 1923 to 1927, with residence at Prince Albert Sask. From 1927 to 1929 he is back in Edmonton as pastor at Saint-Joachim parish before being appointed Provincial Superior of the Alberta Saskatchewan Oblate Province from 1929 to 1938.

The Apostolic Vicariate of Grouard had a new Bishop when Father Ubald Langlois was appointed Vicar Apostolic March 29, 1938. He ministered as Shepherd of the catholic people of this area from 1939 to 1944. It is in 1943 that the Bishop's residence was transferred from Grouard to McLennan. In 1953 Bishop Ubald Langlois was called back to his Creator. He lies at rest in the Grouard Cemetery.

* * *

Ubald Langlois est né à Bourget, Ontario, le 24 janvier 1897 de Joseph-Edmond Langlois et d'Eugénie Ménard.

Ubald entra chez les Missionnaires Oblats le 7 septembre 1907 à Lachine, Qué. où il fit son noviciat. Envoyé à Rome pour ses études de Théologie il prononça ses vœux perpétuels le 8 septembre 1909 à Roviano Italie. Des ennuis de santé l'obligèrent à revenir au Canada pour compléter ses études à Ottawa. C'est là qu'il fut ordonné prêtre le 6 juin 1914.

C'est à Edmonton, au juniorat St. Jean que le Père Ubald Langlois exerça son premier ministère comme professeur en 1915. On le retrouve ensuite assistant-directeur du "Patriote de l'Ouest", avec résidence à Prince-Albert de 1923 à 1927. Revenu à Edmonton, il sera curé de la paroisse Saint-Joachim de 1927 à 1929 et ensuite Supérieur Provincial de la province oblate d'Alberta-Saskatchewan de 1929 à 1938.

C'est le 29 mars 1938 qu'Ubald Langlois est nommé Vicaire Apostolique de Grouard. Il sera alors Pasteur du Vicariat Apostolique de Grouard de 1938 à 1944. C'est en 1943 que l'Evêché sera transféré de Grouard à McLennan.

Depuis 1953, Monseigneur Ubald Langlois repose au cimetière Oblat de Grouard.

LANGLOIS SCHOOL

As many french catholic families were coming to settle in the area, it became apparent that a school was needed where their children could receive instructions in the language and religion of their choice. Some concerned residents formed a committee to look into the matter and soon had an application filed with the Department of Education requesting the Government's attention to their need.

Following the legal process, a Public Notice was posted advising the population of the intention to form a new school district and to elect a committee of three trustees. Of the three names suggested for the new district, Langlois was accepted; Guy and Michel were rejected.

The official word that Guy would be getting a school came in a letter from the High Prairie School Division No. 48 on November 9, 1946

which stated that it approved the "transfer of certain land from Benoit, Whiteland and Edgehill districts" to allow a new district to be formed at Guy, one which would not be included in the School Division. Consequently, the Langlois School District No. 4943 became a reality.

The School Board consisted of three trustees, Cecil W. Ellis, Michael Sniezek and Armand Gagné, and a secretary Léo Lagacé. He was paid twenty dollars (\$20.00) a year. These people were responsible for the complete organisation of the school. The school was operated with government grants available for varied reasons, plus tuition fees paid by out-of-district students. The minutes of the April 4, 1947 meeting state: every classroom offering instructions to grades one to six (elementary) is entitled to two hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$275.00) per year. The first school opened its doors on February 3, 1947. The first teacher was Reverend Claude de Champlain who was to receive a wage of five

Langlois

S. D. No. 4443.

Attendance for the Month of

February

1947

REGISTER NO.	AGE	GRADE	NAMES OF PUPILS	1ST WEEK	2ND WEEK	3RD WEEK	4TH WEEK	5TH WEEK	TOTAL
				MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN	MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN	MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN	MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN	MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN	
1	10	5	Ellen Keith	/	/	/	/	/	20
2	9	4	Dupuis Ben.	/	/	/	/	/	20
3	8	3	Lagacé Maurice	/	/	/	/	/	20
4	7	2	Lagacé Jeanne	/	/	/	/	/	20
5	6	1	Lagacé Jean	/	/	/	/	/	20
6	5	0	Lagacé Marie	/	/	/	/	/	20
7	4	0	Lagacé Armand	/	/	/	/	/	20
8	3	0	Lagacé Roseline	/	/	/	/	/	20
9	2	0	Lagacé Roseline	/	/	/	/	/	20
10	1	0	Lagacé Roseline	/	/	/	/	/	20
11	0	0	Lagacé Roseline	/	/	/	/	/	20
12	0	0	Lagacé Roseline	/	/	/	/	/	20
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17									

District Langlois 1102943

à date: Mars 9/45

Détail du bois et ouvrage donné
Gratuit pour construction de l'école:

Le bridage et clouage du terrain 10.00
par A. Jagne & Abbe Claude.
Clouage du terrain
par W. Bisson Gabriel, mal et P. Jagne 15.00
Eloise Larivière en tonds 20.00
J. Longuet un rouble de bois 5.25
D. Josselin 2000 de bois 40.00
Willie Bisson 1,000 de bois 40.00
C. W. Ellis 1,000 " " 40.00
Ed. J. Dupuis en argent 50.00
Proppier Richert 15.00
Admand Jagne 40.00
Par chargage de bois par W. Bisson 10.00
W. Bisson chargage de bois 5.60
Leo Lagace salaire de scierie 20.00
Autres dépenses d'administration 10.00
M. M. Buzjeh donated 2 acres of land
Pres. Father Lechasseur made a donation of \$121.15

Matériel de construction.

dollars (\$5.00) per day. The rent for the building (the old chicken coop) was eight dollars (\$8.00) per month. Father Lechasseur provided the firewood at two dollars (\$2.00) for each of fourteen cords. The wood was sawed for six dollars and eighty cents (\$6.80) an hour (machine and men) and split by Leo Lagace for fifteen dollars (\$15.00). Twenty-two children were enrolled in grades one to seven and were taught by correspondence courses. Because of the late start, the term was extended until July 18, 1947. That very spring, with the government's approval, construction started on a new one-room schoolhouse on a three acre site donated by Michael Sniezek on the northwest corner of NE 36-75-21-W5.

The labor for the erection of the schoolhouse itself was provided by Leopold Lafleur and Eleodore Lariviere for salaries of one dollar (\$1.00) an hour. The lumber was provided by the people of the area. Adolphe Lemay (a student) cleared the playground for thirty-five cents an hour. Leonard Dupuis received thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) for painting the building and one gallon of paint cost six dollars and fifteen cents (\$6.15) at Willie Brulotte's store. The first janitor was

Willie Brulotte donated

\$14.30

Donated by Joe Dancusse \$6.00

Donated by Father Lechasseur.

\$44.00

72.00

\$116.00

Donated by Joe Dancusse

on hauling of Dicks
from Pomeroy \$6.00

William Saulniers. His wages were five dollars (\$5.00) a month. Playground equipment was purchased through fundraising activities. The first full-time qualified teacher was hired at the going wage of twenty-seven hundred dollars (\$2700.00) a year.

In October, 1947, Sister Marie de Saint Godfrey, who had arrived one month earlier with two other Sisters of Holy Cross, started teaching the younger students regular classes while retaining correspondence courses for the older ones, thirty-five pupils in all. The students were responsible for their own supplies and textbooks which could amount to a considerable sum unless one could get second-hand books.

The first month of classes in 1947, Langlois was accomodating the pupils of Benoit School. Their classroom was being moved to a new foundation and the opening of the regular term was delayed. Later that same term, Soeur Godfrey led her children to the new one-room school built especially for them.

At a special meeting, August 25, 1948 a motion was passed to discontinue instructions by correspondence courses except for grade nine. The five students in grade nine that year were Germaine Brulotte, Eveline Bisson, Jacqueline Bisson, Rosie Dupuis and Adolphe Lemay. Their courses cost them each twenty-nine dollars (\$29.00). Another motion proposed the instruction of the maximum amount of French permitted by the Department of Education.

The fall of 1949 saw the arrival of Sister Collette. The inspector, Mr. Broughton, was present at the meeting of October 5, 1949, and gave permission to open a second class under the direction of Sr. Guy Joseph. November 2, 1949, saw the opening of the Pensionnat Notre Dame de Fatima, and on January 4, 1950, Sr. Catherine Labouré was hired as third teacher and later

Class of Service	Symbol
Day Message	
Night Message	
Day Letter	D.L.
Night Letter	N.M.
Day Letter	N.L.
Night Letter	N.M.
If time of these three rates is not specified, the rate of the day letter of the same class will be charged.	

NORTHERN ALBERTA RAILWAYS

TELEGRAPHS

Head Office: EDMONTON, ALTA. J. M. MacARTHUR, Gen. Mgr.
Connections with C.P.R. and C.N.R. Telegraphs



GR J 10 High Prairie Alta. Sept 17th/49 1004AM

Mr H Gagne Care Chairman Langlois Guy PO Via Falher Alta.

Department approves operation second room conditionally stop wait
my arrival.

L A Broughton Supt of schools.
1055AM.

Télégramme.

replaced by Miss Jeanne Desfossés. Enrolment climbed to 49 students.

The Pensionnat or Convent (as we knew it) was managed by the Sisters of the Holy Cross and accommodated students from other districts, some who wanted french and religious instruction, others who lived too far from their own school to travel everyday. As in the past, anyone who came from another district had to pay a tuition fee of three dollars (\$3.00) each per month. These fees amounted to a considerable sum and became a meaningful part of the budget.

Being an independent school district, finances were the main concern for the Board as every project was directly affected by the budget. The tuition fees had to be collected each month from each family and the payments were often delayed for obvious reasons in a farming community. Nor were the grants received when they were needed – which meant that bank loans had to be obtained to cover teacher's salaries, supplies, etc.

The staff changed often in those days. In September 1950 Sr. Guy Joseph taught grades one and two with sixteen pupils, Sr. Therese de Castille, grades three and four with twenty-three pupils, and Sr. Victoire de Rome with grades five to eight and twenty-one pupils.

The rapidly growing school soon outgrew its facilities. A new and larger site was necessary to accomodate more classes. The Board and the Parish readily agreed to trade six acres south of the convent for the School District's three acres at no cost to the Board. This site soon received the schoolhouse from Ballater South.

Time had come for a change. The Board asked to join the High Prairie School Division No. 48, and turned over the administration to them on January 1, 1952. By agreement, the School Board was retained as well as rights to french and religious instructions. For the parents of some students it meant the end of tuition fees.

As the school population continued to

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT made in duplicate

this 26th day of July 1951

BETWEEN

The Board of the High Prairie School Division No.48 of the Province of Alberta of the one part

and

The Board of Trustees of the Langlois School District No.4943 of the Province of Alberta of the other part.

WHEREAS the Langlois School District No.4943 is a Public School District and is bounded on all sides by school district which are included in the High Prairie School Division No.48 and is thus suitably situated for the location and maintenance therein of a divisional school in which to provide facilities for giving instruction as provided by the Regulations of the Department of Education and

WHEREAS the Langlois School District is located in L.I.D.130 and WHEREAS both parties to the agreement are of the opinion that it would be advantageous to have the said school district included in the said school division

THEREFORE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 280 OF THE SCHOOL ACT IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Langlois School District No.4943 of the Province of Alberta shall be included in the High Prairie School Division No.48 of the Province of Alberta effective January 1, 1952.
2. That the Langlois School District No.4943 agree to supply all labor at no cost to the district or division and under the supervision of the division ~~if~~ necessary. For the moving of the Ballater S school to the Langlois school site and all labor at no cost to the district or division and under the supervision of the Division necessary to put a cement foundation under the Ballater S school and under the present Langlois school at Guy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this agreement by the proper officers of the respective boards signing the same and affixing hereto the corporate seal of each party respectively.

The Board of the High Prairie School Division No.48

The board of the Langlois School District No.4943

[Signature]

[Signature]

In Mary of the Immaculate Conception
Date October 5th 1951

Document.

increase, additional classroom space was again needed. The "old chicken coop" was re-opened, space was rented in the convent, whatever could be found was utilized.

In 1955, a four classroom building, the first phase of the new school was built. As more students kept coming from other districts, their schools closed. Consequently, by 1958, Benoit, Whiteland, River Valley, Edgehill and Ballater Schools were centralized in Guy, followed by Alexandre in 1959. Two teacherages were moved to Langlois to accomodate the staff. Shortly after, the first school bus was in operation. In 1957, grade ten (10) was granted, bringing the total enrollment to one hundred and forty-two (142). For the second time in ten years, a new and larger site was exchanged for the old one at no cost to anyone. In 1959 grade eleven (11) was taught and in 1960 grade twelve (12) with a total of two hundred and sixty-three (263) students.

The elected trustee to represent Sub-division #2 of the High Prairie School Division No. 48 resided in Guy. Paul Gagnon served from 1958 to 1961 and Paul-Emile Maisonneuve from 1961 to 1972.

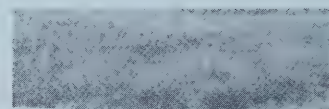
The Board remained very active during all these years. The minutes of June 10, 1961 show a



Les premières années: R.1 Annette Dancause, Rose Marier, Jeannine Martel, Alice Martel, Bibiane Gagné, Gisèle Hébert, Germain Drouin. R.2 Ron Tokarz, Roland Lagacé, Janet Marier, Yvonne Martel, Jeannette Drouin, Cécile Bastien, Anita Bastien. R.3 Elizabeth Tokarz, Henri Dancause, John Tokarz, Ted Dancause, Maurice Gagné, Roger Briand. R.4 Pauline Dancause, Rollande Bastien, Sr Colette, c.s.c., Irène Martel, Lorraine Gagné, Germain Lafleur, Yvon Goselin, Paul Drouin, Louis Briand, Roland Lafleur.



1967. R.1 Gilbert Caux, Angèle Aubin, Gilles Mencke, Lucie Johnson, ??, Maurice Côté. R.2 Gisèle Bastien, Dolores Mercier, Fernande Drouin, Juliette Caron, Suzanne Lacoursière, Yvonne St-Amand. R.3 Roger Pouliot, Joseph Gagné, Daniel Drouin, Diane Fortier, Marcel Jasmin, Carmen Boulet, Susan Gagnon, Kattie Luberda, Carolyn Kellie, Etienne Johnson, ?? R.4 Sr Eugène, c.s.c., Mme M. Caron, Bud Caron, Paul Gagnon.

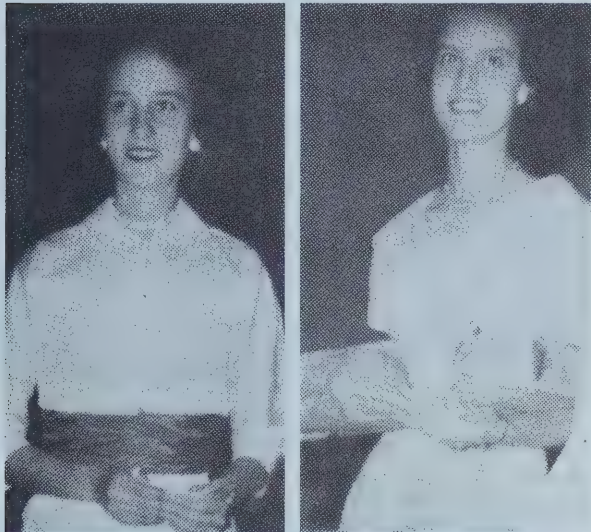


Les conducteurs d'autobus: R.1 Guy Johnson, Omer Aubin, Henri Johnson, Maurice Lambert. R.2 Raoul Lambert, Robert Despins, Bud Caron. Au centre autobus scolaire. A droite: M. et Mme Alphonse Martel concierge à l'école.





Le corps professoral 1960-61: R.1 Sr Eugène, c.s.c., Sr Cyrille, c.s.c., Sr Charles de Blois, c.s.c. R.2 Rita Turcotte, Lucille Côté, Marie Gagnon, M. Milanese, Edith Lonfat, Mlle Sylvestre, Mme Caron, Cécile Aubin.

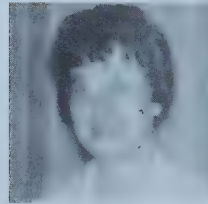


First Langlois School Gr. XII graduates — Jeanine Martel, Lucienne Lambert.

motion to advise the teachers to continue giving all the french instruction that the Department permits.

In 1958, two other classrooms and the gymnasium were added to the existing building, and in 1963, the remainder of the classrooms. The school now had thirteen classrooms, a well-stocked library, a science laboratory, a staffroom and an office. When all the busses arrived at night to take the students home, they formed an impressive line along the wide sidewalk extending from one end of the school nearly to the other end, to number thirteen in all. Enrollment over the years had increased to a maximum of 374 pupils from grades one to twelve. The staff

THE GRADE 12 CLASS OF 1961-62



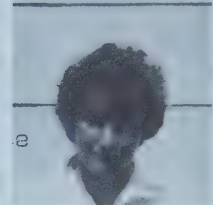
Cecile Bastien



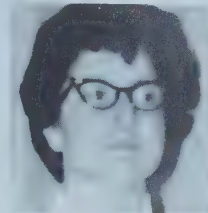
Paulette Bourgeois



Annette Dancause



Claire Dechief



Janet Marier



Stephen May



Wayne Moses



Irene Pouliot



Annette Thibodeau



Helen Wawrzonek



Bernice Verstreat

Grade 12.



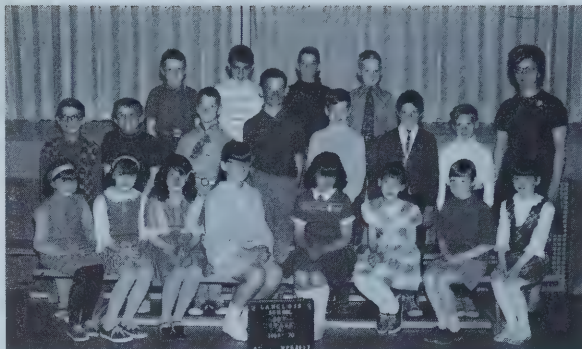
Lors du Concours Oratoire en 1964, les gagnants de la première ronde.



Boys Basketball/Volleyball team: R.1 Daniel Bouchard, Clarence Merchant, Marcel Brulotte. R.2 Andre Cloutier, Jos Gagne, Andre Drouin, Alphonse Briand, Normand Lacourse, Marcel Jasmin, Rudy Brulotte. (1969-70)



On travaille avec la Croix Rouge: R.1 Raymonde Aubin, Beverly Moostoos, Sandy Minarovich, Lucie Despains, Diane Turcotte. R.2 Barbara Eldridge, Richard Beaudoin, Noël Bastien, Tommy Smith, Claude Soucy. R.3 Emile Gagnon, Mario Drouin, Michel Larose, Père Benoit Frigon, o.m.i., David Lacourse, Rémi Boivin, Cécile Aubin. (Red Cross Club, 1972)



Ecole Langlois 1969-70: R.1 Sara Lagacé, Angèle Drouin, Diane Boivin, Tammy Minarovich, Patricia Boivin, Kathy Horvath, Linda Mercier, Annette Bastien. R.2 Michael Eldridge, Ronnie Brulotte, Robert Benoit, André Lacourse, Luc Johnson, Lévis Beaudoin, Lionel St-Amand, Mme Rita Turcotte. R.3 Léon Drouin, René Gagné, Jules Bastien, Normand Caron.

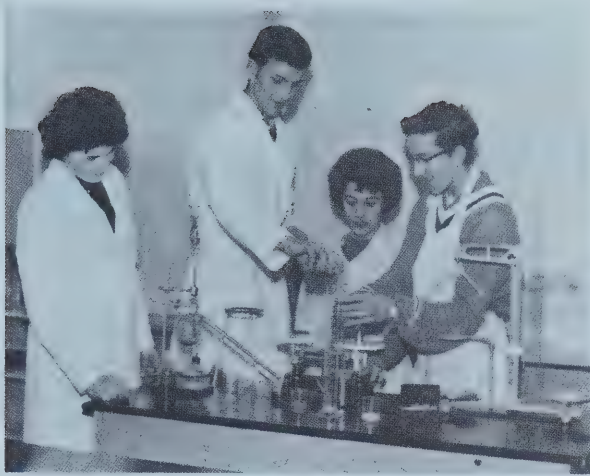
had increased to twelve. Guy offered the matriculation program to grade twelve (12) with Typing and French as options. School busses came from as far as Whitemud Creek. Donnelly School was then offering the diploma program and students were bussed in both directions. The Langlois School held that momentum for a few years. A number of students excelled academically. The quality of education was the best and the students could hold their own with any in the province. Those who attended University were well prepared.

Unfortunately, progress went one step further. The centralization of the High School in Donnelly in 1961-1962 proved to be the beginning of the end for the Guy school. A few of the families chose to send their children to larger centres because of more varied programs and extra-curricular activities.

1965 proved to be another year adding to the downfall. Three school districts pulled away from High Prairie S.D. #48, joining the East Smoky Division and sending their children to Valleyview.

In June 1978, grade seven and eight moved to Donnelly due to a lack of enrollment. The north portion of the school was then closed off and grades one to six were accommodated in the southern portion.

In September 1979, the inevitable happened. The school closed its doors forever. Mrs. Cecile Aubin, who had accepted the principalship that year stated: "It is sad. I've taught here from the days of the old chicken coop until today. Now that we have modern facilities, an excellent bus-sing service, and no doubt could still attract a dedicated staff—all this acquired over a period



Au laboratoire de science: Evangéline Maisonneuve, Wayne Moses, Paulette Bourgeois, Lucien Brulotte.



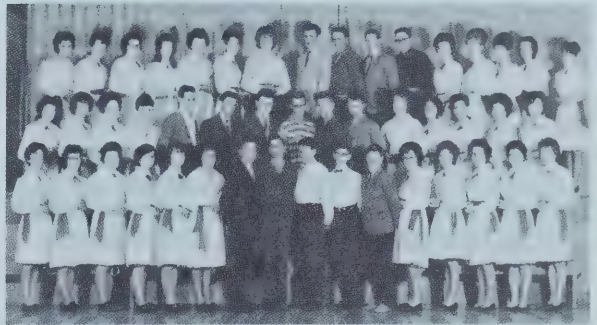
Cheerleaders: R.1 Paulette Bourgeois, Lilianne Pelletier. R.2 Lucille Pelletier, Sylviane Verstraete, Maxine Lorenz.



Hockey team coached by Denis Aubin and Lucien Brulotte. R.1 Claude Hebert, Raoul Johnson, Andre Pouliot, Denis Caux, Lucien Brulotte, Emile Bourgeois. R.2 Allen Lorenz, Germain Bastien, Roderick Nadon, Paul Bourgeois, Marcel Maisonneuve, Rene Gagnon, Denis Gagné, Denis Fortier, Jacques Soucy, Jules Aubin, Clifford Merchant.



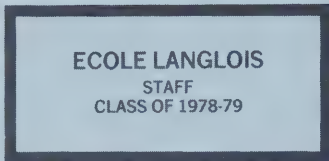
Le corps professoral 1962-63. R.1 George Herner, Marie Gagnon, René Anctil, Mélonia Caron, Sr Céline, c.s.c. R.2 Sr Thérèse de Castille, c.s.c., Rita Turcotte, Sr Guy Abbé, c.s.c., Cécile Aubin, Sr Irène, c.s.c., Viviane Gamache, Jacques Moquin.



Festival de la chanson française, 1964. La 8ième à la 12ième année ont chanté "Excelsior".



Girls Volleyball/Basketball team: R.1 Lucie Johnson, Gisele Bastien, Diane Fortier, ?? Smith. R.2 Albert Turcotte, Principal, Dolores Mercier, Louise Boivin, Yolande Gagnon, Diane Smith, Carolyn Kelly, Angele Aubin, Alphonse Briand, coach



Le corps professoral de la dernière année d'enseignement à Guy: R.1 Angelina Jasmin, Ernest Chauvet, René Mercier, Cécile Aubin. R.2 Rose Horvath, Juliette Noël. R.3 Aline Houle, Paul Séguin, Louise Bastien.

of thirty years—we are compelled to close our doors due to a limited number of students lost to the schools in the larger communities of Donnelly, Falher and Valleyview. It is especially sad for the younger children who will have to travel much longer distances every day. Our community will also suffer! A school is an integral part of a community; we have lost part of our community spirit. It is a sad day indeed!"

Thus, we said goodbye to a grand institution that had served us well. We, the students of Langlois pay homage to our parents, to the dedicated Sisters of Holy Cross, our Pastors who have organized, built, managed, taught in and supported this noble cause.

DIRECTEURS DE L'ÉCOLE LANGLOIS #4943 (1947 – 1979)

Professeurs et activités des premières années.

FEV. 1947 Ouverture de l'école Langlois dans le vieux poulailler. Rev. Claude De Champlain, premier prof. 22 élèves de la première à la septième année.

1947–48 Soeur Marie Godefroy c.s.c. (Mabel Proulx) 35 élèves.

1948–49 Soeur Marie Godefroy, c.s.c. 38 élèves y compris la neuvième année.

1949–50 Soeur Ste-Colette d'Assise, c.s.c. – 49 élèves – Le 5 octobre, 2ième classe ouverte sous la direction de Sr Guy Joseph, c.s.c. Le 2 novembre, ouverture du pensionnat et le 4 janvier ouverture d'une 3ième classe sous la direction de Sr Catherine Labouré.

Jeanne Desfossés Jan. – Avril

1950–51 Sr Victoire de Rome, c.s.c. – 21 élèves – 5e à 9e. Sr Thérèse de Castille, c.s.c. 23 élèves – 3e et 4e. Sr M. Joseph de la Paix, c.s.c. – 16 élèves la 1ière et la 2ième année.

1951–52 Sr Victoire de Rome, c.s.c. L'Ecole Langlois se joint à la Division scolaire de High Prairie #48. L'Ecole Ballater #2 est déménagée sur le terrain de l'Ecole Langlois.

1952–55 Sr Colette D'Assise, c.s.c. A cause du manque d'espace on doit utiliser de nouveau le vieux poulailler en bois rond comme salle de classe ainsi que louer de l'espace dans le couvent.

1955–56 Sr Colette d'Assise, c.s.c. Centralisation à Guy des écoles: Benoit, Whiteland, Edgehill et Ballater.

1956–57 Sr Cyrille, c.s.c. Nouvelle école de quatre classes construite par Buchanan Cons. Ltd.

1957–58 Sr Cyrille, c.s.c. Deux autres classes et un gymnase ajoutés à la 1ière construction. On se sert de la cabane de bois rond et on loue un espace dans le couvent comme salle de classe. 142 élèves de la 1ière à la 10ième année. Le logis pour professeur du district Whiteland est déménagé à Guy.

1958–59 Sr St-Cyrille, c.s.c. Haute Ecole, 10ième et 11ième années. Autobus scolaire et installation du téléphone.

1959–60 Sr St-Cyrille, c.s.c. 1ière à 12ième année. Le 4 octobre avec les 4 dernières classes complétées, 263 élèves.

1960–61 Sr St-Cyrille, c.s.c. Sr Charles de Blais transférée de Donnelly à Guy. Nouveau couvent en construction, financé par les Srs de Ste-Croix.

1961–62 René Anctil. Le couvent bâti en 1949 est fermé; les autobus scolaires transportent les élèves. Premier annuaire de l'école Langlois.

1962–63 René Anctil. Haute Ecole complétée. 12 salles de classe et 13 autobus scolaires – 316 étudiants.

1963–64 Sr Irène Leblanc, c.s.c. réside à Donnelly et fait le trajet à Guy chaque jour.

1964–65 Jacques Moquin.

1965–66 Jacques Moquin. Trois districts scolaires laissent High Prairie pour se joindre à East Smoky Division.

1966–67 Jacques Moquin. Les Hautes Ecoles de la région sont centralisées à Donnelly. La 1ière à la 9ième année demeurent à Guy.

- 1967-68 *Sr Germaine Lambert, c.c.s. La maternelle ouvre ses portes à 16 petits.*
- 1968-69 *Sr Germaine Lambert, c.s.c. Les religieuses de Ste-Croix quittent Guy.*
- 1969-70 *Albert Turcotte.*
- 1970-71 *Hervé Benoît.*
- 1971-72 *Mme Marie Gagnon.*
- 1972-73 *Mlle Janet Marier. Deux classes dans la partie nord ouest de l'école sont converties en appartement pour loger le directeur.*
- 1973-74 *Sr Irène Leblanc, c.s.c. à demi-temps.*
- 1974-78 *Paul Séguin.*
- 1978-79 *Paul Séguin. Les élèves de la 7ième et 8ième années sont transférés à Donnelly.*
- 1979 *L'Ecole Langlois ferme ses portes. Les élèves et les professeurs sont transférés à Donnelly.*

PREMIERS CONSEILLERS DE LA COMMISSION SCOLAIRE LANGLOIS #4943

C. W. Ellis (Président 2 ans), M. Sneizek, A. Gagné (Président 10 ans), Pierre Bouilly, W. Bisson, W. Brulotte, E. Gagné, F. Jasmin et A. Gosselin.

SECRETAIRE DE LA COMMISSION SCOLAIRE:
Léo Lagacé, Sr M. de St-Godefroy, Rev. R. Lechasseur, Sr M. de Ste-Colette, Sr Victoire de Rome, François Jasmin et E. Noël.



**PROFESSEURS – ECOLE LANGLOIS #4943
1947 – 1979**

- 3 FEV. 1947 – 30 JUIN 1947
 REV. CLAUDE DE CHAMPLAIN
- 1 OCT. 1947 – 30 JUIN 1949
 SR MARIE DE ST GODFROY
- SEPT. 1949 – 30 JUIN 1950
 SR M. DE ST GUY JOSEPH
 MLLE JEANNE DESFOSSEE (MAI – JUIN)
 SR M. DE STE CATHERINE (JAN. – APR.)
 *SR M. DE STE COLETTE
- SEPT. 1950 – 30 JUIN 1951
 SR MARIE DE ST GUY JOSEPH (SEPT. – AVRIL)
 MLLE MARIE JASMIN (AVRIL – JUIN)
 SR MARIE DE STE THERESE DE CASTILLE
 *SR MARIE DE STE VICTOIRE DE ROME
- SEPT. 1951 – 30 JUIN 1952
 SR MARIE DE STE THERESE DE CASTILLE
 MLLE MARIE JASMIN
 *SR MARIE DE STE VICTOIRE DE ROME
- SEPT. 1952 – 30 JUIN 1953
 SR MARIE DE STE THERESE DE CASTILLE
 *SR MARIE DE STE COLETTE
- SEPT. 1953 – 30 JUIN 1954
 SR MARIE DE STE THERESE DE CASTILLE
 *SR MARIE DE STE COLETTE
- SEPT. 1954 – 30 JUIN 1955
 SR MARIE DE STE THERESE DE CASTILLE
 *SR MARIE DE STE COLETTE
- SEPT. 1955 – 30 JUIN 1956
 SR MARIE DE STE CATHERINE LABOURE
 MME CECILE AUBIN
 *SR MARIE DE STE COLETTE
- SEPT. 1956 – 30 JUIN 1957
 SR MARIE DE STE CATHERINE LABOURE
 MME CECILE AUBIN
 *SR MARIE DE ST CYRILLE
 SR MARIE ALICE (SEPT. – JAN.)
- SEPT. 1957 – 30 JUIN 1958
 SR MARIE DE STE CATHERINE
 MME RITA BENOIT
 MME CECILE AUBIN
 MME MARIE GAGNON
 *SR MARIE DE ST CYRILLE
- SEPT. 1958 – 30 JUIN 1959
 SR MARIE DE STE CATHERINE
 MME MARIE PATTYN
 MME RITA TURCOTTE
 MME RITA BENOIT
 MME MELONIA CARON
 MME MARIE GAGNON
 *SR MARIE DE ST CYRILLE
- SEPT. 1959 – 30 JUIN 1960
 SR MARIE DE ST EUGENE
 MME MARIE PATTYN
 MME RITA TURCOTTE

MME LEONNE TURCOTTE (1 SEPT. - 16 OCT.)		M. G. HERNER	GR. 10
MME RITA BENOIT (19 OCT. - 30 JUIN)		SR GUY ABBE	GR. 11
MME MELONIA CARON		*SR IRENE	GR. 12
MME CECILE AUBIN		SEPT. 1964 - 30 JUIN 1965	
SR MARIE DE STE RAPHAELA (1 SEPT. - 5 FEV.)		MME YOLANDE MOQUIN	GR. 1
SR MARIE DE ST DENIS (8 FEV. - 30 JUIN)		MLLE LORRAINE BISSON	GR. 2
MME MARIE GAGNON		MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3
*SR MARIE DE ST CYRILLE		SR EUGENE	GR. 4
SEPT. 1960 - 30 JUIN 1961		MME MELONIA CARON	GR. 5
SR MARIE EUGENE		MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6
MME MARIE PATTYN		MME LUCILLE COTE	GR. 7
MME RITA TURCOTTE		SR GUY ABBE	GR. 8
MME MARIETTE PRESS (SYLVESTRE)		MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 9
MME MELONIA CARON		SR GERMAINE	GR. 10-12
MME CECILE AUBIN		M. EDMOND DESPINS	GR. 10-12
MME LUCILLE COTE		M. ADRIAN DOMINGO	GR. 10-12
MME EDITH LONFAT (1 SEPT. - 28 AVRIL)		SR MARIE DE STE AGNES	GR. 10-12
M. ROGER PITRE (1 MAI - 30 JUIN)		*M. JACQUES MOQUIN	GR. 7-12
MME MARIE GAGNON		SEPT. 1965 - 30 JUIN 1966	
SR CHARLES-DE-BLOIS		MME YOLANDE MOQUIN	GR. 1
*SR CYRILLE DR. M. MILANESE		MME LUCILLE COTE	GR. 2
SEPT. 1961 - 30 JUIN 1962		MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3
SR MARIE DE ST EUGENE	GR. 1	M. HERVE BENOIT	GR. 4
MLLE IRENE WAWRZONEK	GR. 2	MME MELONIA CARON	GR. 5
MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3	MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6
MME LUCILLE COTEGR. 4		MME LEA LUTZ (THIBAUT)	GR. 7
MME MELONIA CARON	GR. 5	M. MARTIN BLANCHET	GR. 8
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6	MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 9
MME EDITH LONFAT	GR. 7	SR GERMAINE	GR. 10
MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 8	M. EDMOND DESPINS	GR. 11
SR CHARLES DE BLOIS	GR. 9	SR EVA	GR. 12
*M. RENE ANCTIL	GR. 10	SR GUY ABBE	GR. 8-11
SEPT. 1962 - 30 JUIN 1963		*M. JACQUES MOQUIN	GR. 7-12
SR CELINE DU SAUVEUR	GR. 1	SEPT. 1966 - 30 JUIN 1967	
SR THERESE DE CASTILLE	GR. 2	MME YOLANDE MOQUIN	GR. 1,2
MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3	MME S. NAIDOO	GR. 1,2
MLLE VIVIAN GAMACHE	GR. 4	SR M. JEANNE LACOMBE	GR. 3
MME MELONIA CARON	GR. 5	M. ANTHONY SHANN	GR. 4
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6	M. P.S. NAIDOO	GR. 5
M. JACQUES MOQUIN	GR. 7	MME CHRISTINE CLIFFORD	GR. 6-11
MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 8	M. PETER J. CLIFFORD	GR. 6-11
M. GEORGE HERNER	GR. 9	M. WILFRED SAVAGE	GR. 7,8,11,12
SR GUY ABBE	GR. 10	MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 7-9
SR IRENE	GR. 11	SR GERMAINE	GR. 8,10,11,12
*M. RENE ANCTIL	GR. 12	SR EVA-MARGUERITE	GR. 9-12
SEPT. 1963 - 30 JUIN 1964		*M. JACQUES MOQUIN	GR. 7,9,10,11
SR EUGENE	GR. 1	SEPT. 1967 - 30 JUIN 1968	
SR MADELEINE	GR. 2	SR IRENE WILLIAMS	GR. 1
MME R. TURCOTTE	GR. 3	MME S. NAIDOO	GR. 2
MME Y. MOQUIN	GR. 4	MME GISELE DUGUAY	GR. 3
MME M. CARON	GR. 5	MME LUCILLE COTE	GR. 4
MME C. AUBIN	GR. 6	M. M. BLANCHET	GR. 5
MME L. COTE	GR. 7	MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6
M. A. DOMINGO	GR. 8	M. PURSYA (KEN) NAIDOO	GR. 7
MME M. GAGNON	GR. 9	*SR GERMAINE LAMBERT	GR. 8
		MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 9

SEPT. 1968 – 30 JUIN 1969

SR LILIANE MERCIER	GR. 1-2
MME S. NAIDOO	GR. 1-2
MME GISELE DUGUAY	GR. 3
AGRIPINA I. BURNARDO	GR. 2,3
MME GERTRUDE BENOIT	GR. 4
MLLE RAYMONDE MAISONNEUVE	GR. 5,7,8
M. ALBERT J. TURCOTTE	GR. 5,6
MME MARGARET MARY DOBE	GR. 1,5,6
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6
MAHIN HIN T. ROBERTO	GR. 5,6,7
M. EDWARD I. DOBE	GR. 8
MLLE DEIDRE ACKERLY	GR. 9
M. PURSYA (KEN) NAIDOO	GR. 8-9
*SR GERMAINE LAMBERT	

SEPT. 1969 – 30 JUIN 1970

SR LILIANE MERCIER	GR. 1,2
MME S. NAIDOO	GR. 1-3
MME GISELE DUGUAY	GR. 3
MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 4
MME RITA BENOIT	GR. 5
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 5-7
*M. ALBERT J. TURCOTTE	GR. 6-9
MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 7-9
M. PURSYA (KEN) NAIDOO	GR. 7-9

SEPT. 1970 – 30 JUIN 1971

MME S. NAIDOO	GR. 1,2
MME G. DUGUAY	GR. 3
MME R. TURCOTTE	GR. 4
M. ISAYA	GR. 5
MME ISAYA	GR. 1,2,7
M. S. PILLAY	GR. 1-9
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6
*M. HERVE BENOIT	GR. 7-9
MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 7-9
M. PURSYA (KEN) NAIDOO	GR. 7-9

SEPT. 1971 – 30 JUIN 1972

MME S. NAIDOO	GR. 1,2
MLLE MONIQUE DEMOISSAC	GR. 1,2
MME GISELE DUGUAY	GR. 3,4
MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3,4
M. S.S. PILLAY	GR. 5,6
MLLE LUCIE LABRECQUE	GR. 5,6
M. LEVIS BERGERON	GR. 7-9
*MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 7-9
M. PURSYA (KEN) NAIDOO	GR. 7-9

SEPT. 1972 – 30 JUIN 1973

MLLE DOLORES LUSSIER	GR. 1,2
M. LESTER CAMPBELL	GR. 1,2
MME. RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3,4
MME GISELE DUGUAY	GR. 5
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 6
*MLLE JANET MARIER	GR. 7,8
M. RONNIE PILLAY	GR. 7,8
M. DONALD ST. HILAIRE	GR. 7,8

SEPT 1973 – 30 JUIN 1974

SR PATRICIA FINNIGAN	GR. 1,2
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MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3,4
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 5,6
MME MARIE GANON	GR. 7,8
MLLE EVELYNE LAFLAMME	GR. 1-8
*SR IRENE LEBLANC	

SEPT. 1974 – 30 JUIN 1975

*M. PAUL SEGUIN	GR. 1,2
MME RITA TURCOTTE	GR. 3,4
MME CECILE AUBIN	GR. 5,6
MME MARIE GAGNON	GR. 7,8

SEPT 1975 – 30 JUIN 1976

*M. PAUL SEGUIN	GR. 1,2
MLLE NICOLE CARRIER	GR. 3
M. GREG DUVAL	GR. 4
M. PIERRE TREMBLAY	GR. 5,6
M. RENE MERCIER	GR. 7,8

SEPT 1976 – 30 JUIN 1977

*M. PAUL SEGUIN	GR. 1,2
M. ERNEST CHAUVET	GR. 3,4
M. PIERRE TREMBLAY	GR. 5,6
M. RENE MERCIER	GR. 7,8
MME CECILE AUBIN FRANCAIS	

SEPT. 1977 – 30 JUIN 1978

*M. PAUL SEGUIN	GR. 1,2
M. ERNEST CHAUVET	GR. 3,4
M. PIERRE TREMBLAY	GR. 5,6
M. RENE MERCIER	GR. 7,8
MME CECILE AUBIN FRANCAIS	

SEPT. 1978 – 30 JUIN 1979

*M. PAUL SEGUIN	GR. 1,2
M. ERNEST CHAUVET	GR. 4-6
M. RENE MERCIER	GR. 7-8
MME CECILE AUBIN FRANCAIS	
* = DIRECTEURS DE L'ECOLE LANGLOIS	

RENE ANCTIL RECOLLECTS THE YEARS SPENT AT LANGLOIS SCHOOL

by Rene

Early in March of 1961, Father Forget of Falher, dropped in to see me at Kinuso School and suggested that I consider the principalship at Langlois School...it was to be vacant in June. Mr. Oscar Fadum, then Superintendent of Schools, encouraged me to apply for the position and he assured me of his unwavering support. The Board of the High Prairie School Division subsequently appointed me to the position effective September 1, 1961.

After twenty-eight years in Education I have to admit that the combined principalship and teaching load at Langlois School was as stressful and difficult an assignment as any I've encountered in my entire teaching career.

Looking back, I realize that good fortune was smiling upon me...that I was extremely fortunate in that the tasks inherent in the job of Principal, were considerably alleviated by the fact that my

entire staff at Langlois School consisted of experienced and highly professional people. Its clear now that they not only did an excellent job in the classroom but that they had to have abundant talent at covering up and/or putting up with my ineptitudes. I've learned over the years that you, as administrator appear to be doing a fine job, its usually because you have extremely capable people shoring you up. This was true of the entire staff at Langlois.

I recall that Sister Charles de Blois and I taught basically all the courses offered at the grades X, XI, and XII levels during the school year 1961-62. It's obvious to me still that were it not for her incomparable strength as a highly knowledgeable and effective teacher and the total devotion and dedication she brought to her job, my stay at Langlois could not have been what it was. I also remember vividly, when in 1962 Sister Irene Leblanc, a former school principal joined my staff. I was apprehensive and worried as to how she would be able to put up with me..., or me with her, she being a teacher and administrator of many years of experience and me a relative novice. She soon put my fears to rest. To this day I have the greatest admiration

and respect for her...she was during my last year at Langlois an invaluable counselor and a most supportive colleague. It was very reassuring to have her around when the going was tough.

Among the many fond memories I have of my two years at Langlois School, I can easily recollect the enthusiasm with which parents responded to school needs. I recall indicating to Mr. Dancause that the playground could do with some equipment. He immediately began to point out to me that we had the wherewithal, here in Guy, to fabricate what was needed. I listened to him but had my doubts. However, this was precisely what happened. Father deChamplain authorized the sale (at minimal cost) of piping stored in the old convent (which was in the process of being totally dismantled), and with Bud Caron's skills with the welding torch we fabricated two Giant's Strides, a set of swings, horizontal ladders and monkey bars. These were set in cement during a weekend by a group of parents who freely gave their time. the cost was minimal...we ended up with a well equipped playground.

I was very proud of all Langlois students and I felt that the parents were even more so. We



R.1: Dorothy Turner, Carol Gagnon, Leslie Minarovich, Susan Turcotte, Rachel Aubin, Susan Chaibos, Noëlla Gagnon, Rollande Boivin, Lina Despins. R.2: Normand Lessard, Norman Drouin, Kenny Eldridge, Stéphane Bouchard, Steve Alexandre, Gérard Beaudoin, Brian Pidgeon. R.3: Isabelle Boulet, Arthur Johnson, Mrs. Jeanne Mercier, Robert Bisson, Mme. Rose Horvath.

could always count on a large number of parents attending school events....Awards' Night, Christmas Concerts, sports events, etc. I recall how readily parents responded to driving car loads of students to activities and/or competitions with surrounding schools, to trackmeets, the end of the year school picnics, etc.

What I used to enjoy a great deal was acting as referee on the playing field, when the high

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDMONTON, Tuesday, February 3rd, 1959

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4 of The School Act, 1955, I hereby establish a school district to be known as the Villemarie School District No. 5103 of the Province of Alberta, to contain the following lands:

In Township 74, Range 21, West of 5th M.

Sections 7 to 10 inclusive, sections 15 to 22 inclusive and sections 27 to 34 inclusive

In Township 74, Range 22, West of 5th M.

Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 13

This order shall be in effect immediately.

Certified True Copy

[Signature]
Acting Deputy Minister

A. O. Dalling

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Carte.

school boys relished the opportunity to exhibit toughness, speed, agility and skill at handling the soccer, touch football or the baseball bat.

I can also recall some instances of sadness when on two or three occasions I could not convince junior or senior high students to reconsider their decision to quit school when they had the ability and were so close to completion.

A more recent and painful experience was the part I had to play, as Superintendent of Schools, in the closure of the Langlois School.

Summing up, I feel that I made lasting friendships at Guy. I am sure that in 1973, the obvious enthusiasm with which Benoit Aubin and Raoul Lambert volunteered to lend a strong hand at reactivating the ski hill, was a direct result of the relationship established in previous years. There are many residents of Guy, both parents and former students that I remember fondly.

THE GUY PRESCHOOL PROJECT

by Cécile Aubin

The Guy preschool Project was organized by a committee of parents under the direction of Mr. Bernard St.Pierre, representative of the Family Service Bureau. The preschool officially opened May, 1968 for 16 children. Many teacher's were involved over the years-1968-1979 period: Miss Diane Noël, Mrs. Jeanne Mercier, Miss Isabelle Boulet, Mrs. Rose Horvath, Mrs. Eillean Eldridge and Mrs. Aline Houle. The enrollment varied from fifteen to twenty eager five years old boys and girls. They attended classes on alternate days between the month of October and June. It proved to be a very enjoyable as well as beneficial experience for the little ones.



1967 Langlois Preschool graduation: Terry Chaibos, Dale Minarovich, Ricky Minarovich and Michael Caron.

Agriculture



Breaking land at Mencke's in 1930.

The following information, whether presented through a map or listing, indicates on a quarter section basis the name of the individual who patented that quarter, the day he filed for that quarter, and the day the patent was granted.

Since the reference materials consulted were limited in that they only covered a period of time up to 1948 (with a few exceptions) it was impossible in many cases to ascertain a patent date, or that indeed a patent had been granted. In these cases which usually involve agricultural or veteran's leases, the type of lease is indicated rather than a patent date. Since isolated areas such as northern Whitemud and poorer soil areas such as to the east of Guy were only settled after 1950 the maps are regrettably bare in covering these areas. It is also to be noted that despite close scrutiny errors in the spelling of names, especially family names occur.

We hope, despite these limitations that the following maps may help you in tracing the original settlers of this area.

A typical entry will appear as follows (in the maps):

6.1.31 :Filing date (January 6th., 1931).
Michael :First name of applicant, or initials.
Snizek :Last name of applicant.
14.12.36 :Patent date (December 14th., 1936).

This information was compiled by Pierre Mencke. It was arranged on the maps by Francoise Dechief.

HOMESTEAD FILES				HOMESTEAD FILES			
Land Description	Filing Date	Applicant's Name	Lease Type/ Patent Date.	Land Description	Filing Date	Applicant's Name	Lease Type/ Patent Date.
(TOWNSHIP 76, RANGE 19, WEST of the 5th. MERIDIAN.)				(TOWNSHIP 74, RANGE 22, WEST of the 5th. MERIDIAN.)			
SW 16	22.12.30	Joseph M. Duffy	10.6.36	NW 23	15.7.46	Patrick Dupuis	Vet. Lease
(TOWNSHIP 75, RANGE 19, WEST of the 5th. MERIDIAN.)				SW 23	15.7.46	Patrick Dupuis	Vet. Lease
NW 17	15.10.46	P.E. Maisonneuve	Vet. Lease	NW 24	1.10.47	Martin Lonfat	Agr. Lease
SW 19	15.7.46	Anatole Turcotte	Vet. Lease	SW 24	15.10.47	Etienne A. Phalempin	Agr. Lease
SE 19	15.7.46	Anatole Turcotte	Vet. Lease	SE 24	15.10.47	Etienne A. Phalempin	Agr. Lease
SW 20	15.10.46	P.E. Maisonneuve	Vet. Lease	NW 25	15.10.47	Harold J. Hayden	Agr. Lease
(TOWNSHIP 74, RANGE 22, WEST of the 5th. MERIDIAN.)				NE 25	15.10.47	Harold J. Hayden	Agr. Lease
NW 07	15.9.47	Paul A. Phalempin	Agr. Lease	SW 25	1.10.47	Martin Lonfat	Agr. Lease
NE 07	15.9.47	Paul A. Phalempin	Agr. Lease	SW 26	2.7.46	Wilfred J. Dupuis	Vet. Lease
NE 08	2.12.46	Harold Merchant	Agr. Lease	SW 26	2.7.46	Wilfred J. Dupuis	Vet. Lease
SE 08	2.12.46	Harold Merchant	Agr. Lease	SW 28	15.12.45	Robert S. Veraart	Agr. Lease
NW 09	1.12.48	Harold W. Arndt	Agr. Lease	SE 28	15.12.45	Robert S. Veraart	Agr. Lease
NE 09	1.5.47	Walter D. Arndt	Agr. Lease	NW 31	2.11.34	Eddie L. Cote	9.11.40
SW 09	1.12.48	Harold W. Arndt	Agr. Lease	NE 31	15.6.35	Ralph Hirsch	1.11.40
SE 09	15.9.47	Gaston Mencke	Agr. Lease	SW 31	15.8.46	Louis Dumont	24.1.27
NW 10	1.5.47	Walter D. Arndt	Agr. Lease	SE 31	29.7.30	Millet Dumont	25.4.35
NE 10	15.8.47	Pierre Fortin	Agr. Lease	SE 32	31.3.44	Millet Dumont	Graz. Permit
SW 10	15.9.47	Gaston Mencke	Agr. Lease	SW 32	29.7.30	Charles Dumont	26.9.40
SE 10	15.8.47	Pierre Fortin	Agr. Lease	SE 32	3.10.33	Antonia Dumont	13.8.40
SW 13	15.10.47	Thomas S. Helliis	Agr. Lease	SW 33	16.9.46	Gertrude Nairon	Agr. Lease
SE 13	15.10.47	Thomas S. Helliis	Agr. Lease	NE 33	15.11.46	Clement M. Nairon	Agr. Lease
NW 16	2.7.47	George A. Nadon	Agr. Lease	SW 33	29.7.30	Thomas Harvey	28.8.35
NE 16	2.7.47	George A. Nadon	Agr. Lease	NE 35	2.8.30	Pierre P. Fortin	25.4.35
SW 16	2.1.48	Beatrice Desfosses	Agr. Lease	NE 35	15.11.47	Edward J. Stearn	Agr. Lease
SE 16	2.1.48	Beatrice Desfosses	Agr. Lease	SE 35	15.11.47	Edward J. Stearn	Agr. Lease
NW 17	15.8.47	Averil B. Reid	Agr. Lease	SW 36	1.11.47	Charles A. Moore	Agr. Lease
NE 17	16.12.46	Wilfred L. Reid	Vet. Lease	SE 36	1.11.47	Charles A. Moore	Agr. Lease
SW 17	15.8.47	Averil B. Reid	Agr. Lease	(TOWNSHIP 74, RANGE 21, WEST of the 5th. MERIDIAN.)			
SE 17	16.12.46	Wilfred L. Reid	Vet. Lease	NW 36	1.9.43	Gerard E. Duguay	Agr. Lease
NW 18	10.9.18	Thomas W. Killips	23.7.19	NE 36	1.9.43	Gerard E. Duguay	Agr. Lease
NE 18	15.9.47	Marie A. Phalempin	Agr. Lease	(TOWNSHIP 74, RANGE 20, WEST of the 5th. MERIDIAN.)			
SW 18	15.10.47	E.P.H. Phalempin	Agr. Lease	SE 01	24.11.37	Margaret Brown	13.11.45
SE 18	15.10.47	E.P.H. Phalempin	Agr. Lease	SE 01	4.8.31	Sidney Brown	20.1.43
NW 19	2.10.30	Harry H. Killips	17.11.45	NW 23	21.5.30	Earl Courtney	25.5.39
NE 19	2.10.30	Gordon R. Killips	11.12.42	NE 23	25.8.30	George Ray	25.2.38
SW 19	1.10.46	Chester I. Jordan	Vet. Lease	SW 23	1.2.30	Arthur B. Courtney	12.5.38
SE 19	2.10.30	Thomas W. Killips	12.1.42	SE 23	26.5.38	Robert C. Stewart	25.9.46
NW 20	2.9.47	Arnold R. Lloyd	Agr. Lease	NW 24	11.9.30	Ben Ray	29.3.38
SW 20	2.9.47	Arnold R. Lloyd	Agr. Lease	NW 31	15.10.47	Leon J. Wright	26.3.54
NW 21	15.8.45	Edward Veraart	Agr. Lease	NE 31	15.10.47	Leon J. Wright	26.3.54
NE 21	15.8.45	Kenneth W. Lloyd	Agr. Lease	SW 31	15.10.48	George Bastien	4.5.60
SW 21	15.8.45	Edward Veraart	Agr. Lease	SE 31	15.10.48	George Bastien	4.5.60
SE 21	15.8.45	Kenneth W. Lloyd	Agr. Lease	This information was obtained from the files of the Provincial Archives, Edmonton, Alberta.			
NW 22	1.12.46	George E. Dupuis	Vet. Lease				
SW 22	1.12.46	George E. Dupuis	Vet. Lease				
SW 22	2.7.47	Archib. Arndt	Agr. Lease				
SE 22	2.7.47	Archib. Arndt	Agr. Lease				

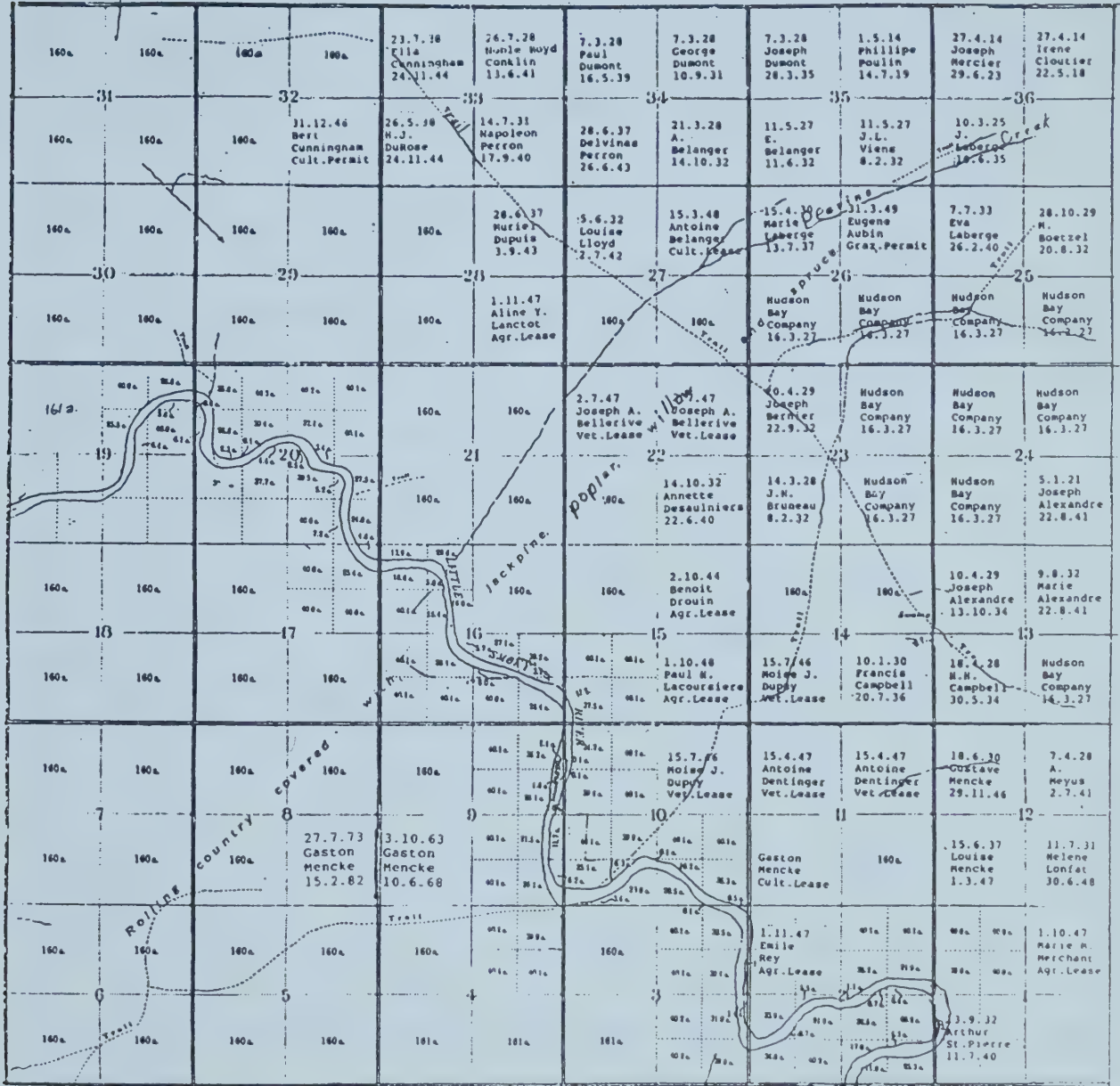
Homestead.

ALBERTA

Plan of Township 76, Range 22, West of the Fifth Meridian

FIRST EDITION

SCALE 40 CHAIN



Compiled from official surveys by
H. W. Selby D.L.S. 18th October 1905
J. H. Smith D.L.S. 4th October 1910

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE
NUMBERING OF SECTIONS
DIVISIONS IN A SECTION



NOTE: The subdivisions of quarter sections shown upon this plan are legal subdivisions. Areas in acres are marked on all lands surveyed. Distances are in chains. Bearings are reckoned from the astronomical meridian through the centre of the township.

Department of the Interior, Ottawa, 25th 1910
Approved and Confirmed

Eden
Survey

Homestead.

ALBERTA

Plan of Township 76, Range 21, West of the Fifth Meridian

FIRST EDITION

SCALE 40 CHAIN

17.6.13 Noble Boy Conklin 29.12.20	17.6.13 George Conklin 9.2.21	5.6.17 Ulric Casault 20.8.20	20.7.26 J.J. Dupuy 27.8.30	19.5.25 J.G.W. Cooper 15.10.29	16.4.19 Ferdinand Gibbelleau 2.1.29	6.3.17 Joseph Fortier 12.10.20	7.8.15 Louis Brulotte 16.12.19	25.6.19 Emile Desilets 28.7.26	20.8.24 Raymond Lussier 7	29.4.27 Auguste Thibault 20.8.32
7.12.15 Omer Cloutier 13.10.20	7.12.15 Elzear Cloutier 6.9.24	27.2.19 Elzear Cloutier 17.6.24	5.6.20 George Lemire 3.5.24	10.11.26 Edward Faucher 25.1.30	16.12.27 Benjamin May 25.2.33	19.12.16 Aime Trotter 4.3.21	6.5.20 John G.W. Cooper 14.6.26	16.4.19 Emile Desilets 29.7.26	8.9.22 Paul Legault 24.10.32	10.6.27 J. Benoit 9.3.34
19.8.33 Lucien B. Turcotte 13.12.40	28.5.29 Elzear Cloutier 10.7.34	11.7.28 Louise Martel 3.3.48	11.7.28 Louise Martel 3.3.48	22.11.21 Leopold Roy 24.7.26	12.11.21 Marius Blanchet 14.1.28	5.6.19 John H. McDonald 21.7.24	12.5.19 John H. McDonald 21.7.24	Soldier Settlement Board 29.5.29	3.1.28 Edmond Labbe 28.5.35	4.5.38 Richard A. Lagace 12.12.45
27.2.28 Peter Dusseault 10.7.34	10.7.20 Arthur St. Pierre 4.10.26	11.7.28 Henry O. Verstraete 27.3.47	11.7.28 Henry O. Verstraete 27.3.47	22.11.21 Leopold Roy 24.7.26	26.9.21 Albert Blanchet 14.2.28	29.7.19 Wm. J. Harris Patented	29.7.19 Wm. J. Harris Patented	Soldier Settlement Board 30.5.29	27.9.27 Maurice Beauchamp 30.10.36	1.6.27 J.M. Beauchamp 28.5.35
13.1.22 Joseph Alexandre 3.11.27	28.8.20 Edgar St. Pierre 29.3.28	24.9.30 Ferdinand Gibbelleau 29.6.35	Soldier Settlement Board 8.8.7	Soldier Settlement Board 9.7.29	Soldier Settlement Board 9.7.29	27.9.20 Sylvio Villeneuve 26.9.40	10.6.28 L. Fortier 20.10.34	3.8.28 A. Fortier 28.5.35	11.7.28 Ned Collin 22.4.32	25.4.29 Odilon Olivier 7.4.33
6.1.28 R. Dusseault 13.7.37	4.8.20 Robert Blanchet 29.12.27	10.9.30 Herve Pierre 9.5.35	10.1.28 J. Boisvert 8.9.31	19.4.27 Omer Boisvert 16.7.30	7.5.27 Adrien Boisvert 3.2.32	2.5.30 Donat Lacourse 3.11.41	13.6.28 J.J.S. Campbell 10.6.35	160a	15.8.44 Suzanne R. Fortier Agr. Lease	1.8.44 Charles Morin Agr. Lease
26.11.27 Charles DeBaere 31.5.33	11.8.20 Oscar W. Blanchet 29.3.28	3.3.28 Jules Bourgeois 1.2.32	26.11.29 Robert Bourgeois 16.12.35	6.7.28 Gerald Proulx 26.1.34	10.8.28 Benjamin Demers 26.5.33	14.6.28 Joseph G. Malott 9.3.34	13.6.28 Joseph G. Malott 10.6.35	25.5.37 Gaston Boisvert ?	160a	160a
26.11.27 E. Desaunois 29.6.35	9.10.20 Antoine Thomas 22.5.31	8.10.21 Paul Thomas 22.5.31	24.4.29 Herve Pierre 31.11.32	14.2.27 J.J. Durkin 25.4.35	7.5.27 Joseph Morin 22.5.31	29.9.20 Lawrence Dwyer 23.10.25	Hudson Bay Company 15.3.27	1.10.43 Joseph Morin Agr. Lease	160a	15.11.43 Leopold Lafleur Agr. Lease
4.4.28 L.L.M. Meyus 28.8.35	160a	22.6.27 G. Paul 30.4.31	10.1.28 Vandal 16.2.34	Soldier Settlement Board 30.5.29	30.6.19 Edwin Brennan 17.12.29	30.6.19 Edwin Brennan 17.12.29	26.6.19 Samuel McBride 29.8.28	11.7.28 Ovide Brulotte Sale	160a	7.6.29 Odilon Fortier 3.9.41
12.11.29 Arthur Campbell 12.1.40	27.7.28 Noe Verdon 28.11.32	12.7.29 Ovide Conklin 10.9.31	12.7.19 James P. Hogan 12.7.28	Soldier Settlement Board 29.5.29	7.3.27 J. Gagnon 22.5.31	26.6.19 Samuel McBride 29.8.28	14.5.19 Harold Restall 21.1.29	11.7.28 Ovide Brulotte Sale	160a	7.6.29 Josephat Fortier 14.2.42
160a	30.3.31 Vigor Boisvert 27.1.36	28.7.27 Omer Cloutier 28.11.32	1.6.29 Herve Proulx 27.1.36	12.7.19 James P. Hogan 12.7.28	Hudson Bay Company 24.1.27	14.5.19 Harold Restall 19.1.29	3.1.28 J.A. Percheron 31.5.33	10.10.28 William J. Harris 22.8.32	20.10.28 Louis N. Brulotte 21.6.43	1.9.44 Sylvio Benoit Agr. Lease
1.10.43 Frank Gagne Agr. Lease	15.8.45 Jeanne D'Arc Drouin Agr. Lease	15.8.44 Jeanne D'Arc Drouin Agr. Lease	10.11.28 Eloi Lacourse 30.12.32	24.1.28 Fred W. Caron 1.2.32	Hudson Bay Company 24.1.27	4.7.28 Wm. H. Ford 19.2.32	20.7.22 George W. Vowden 17.11.33	14.12.28 John H. McDonald 26.5.33	11.1.29 Fred J. Vowden 24.9.35	29.3.35 Della Robert 18.12.42
										9.11.37 Walter Hebert

PHOTO INCORPORATED AT THE SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE

Compiled from official surveys by
H. W. Selby, D.L.S., 13th October, 1905
J. H. Smith, D.L.S., 11th November, 1910

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE NUMBERING OF
LEGAL SUBDIVISIONS IN A SECTION.

12	14	16	18
9	11	13	15
6	8	10	12
3	5	7	9
1	2	4	6

NOTE: Areas in acres are marked on all lands surveyed. Distances are in chains. Bearings are reckoned from the astronomical meridian through the centre of the township.

Department of the Interior, Ottawa, 8th

Approved and Confirmed

CA
Surr

Homestead.

Plan of Township 76, Range 20, West of the Fifth Meridian

787 EDITION

SCALE 40 CHAINS TO

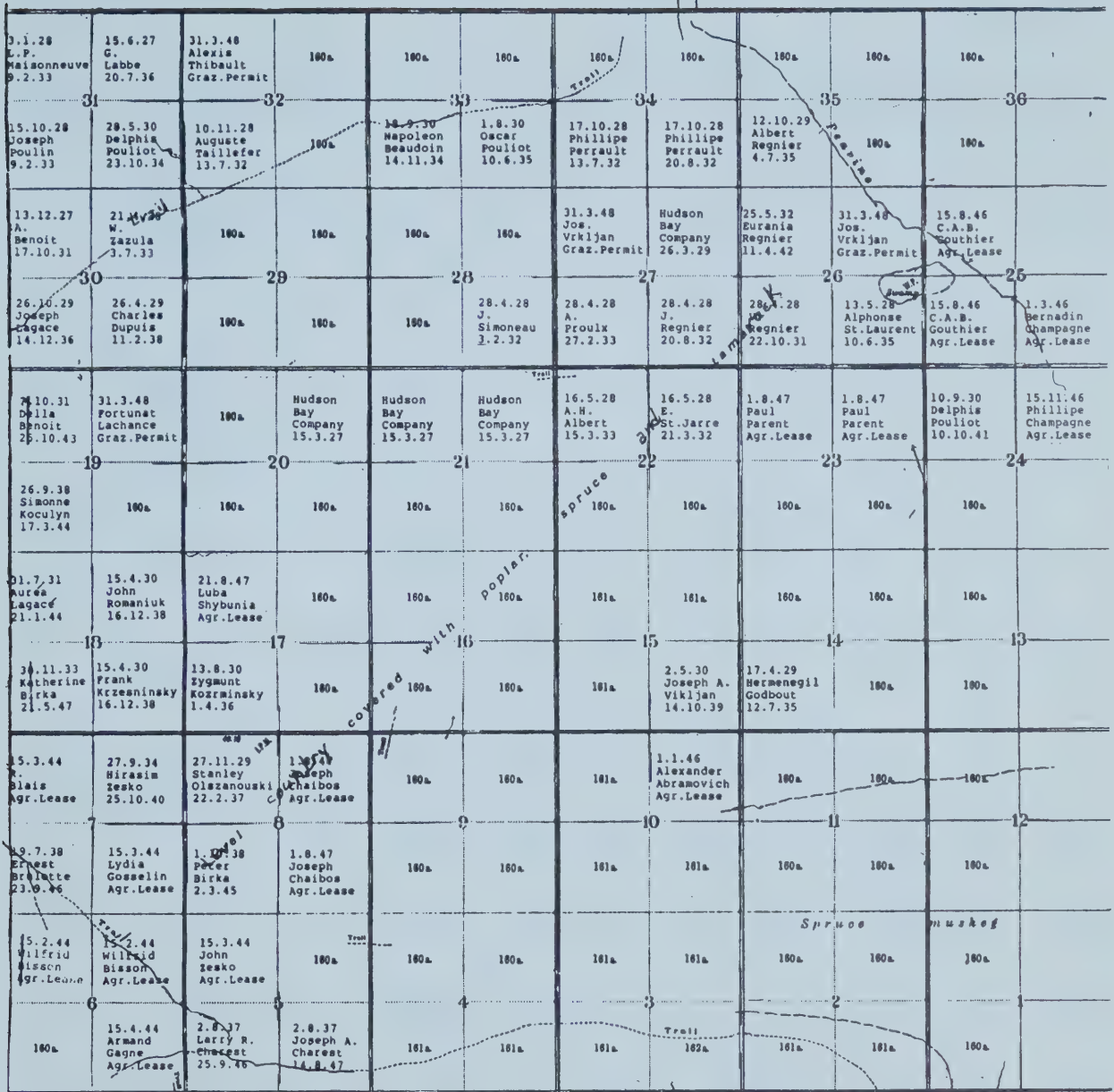


PHOTO-INCORPORATED AT THE SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE '01

filed from official surveys by

W. Selby, D.L.S. 10th October, 1908
H. Smith, D.L.S. 31st October, 1910

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE NUMBERING OF
LEGAL SUBDIVISIONS IN A SECTION.

12	14	16	18
10	11	13	15
8	9	7	6
4	5	3	2

NOTE: Areas in acres are marked on all lands surveyed. Distances are in chains. Bearings are reckoned from the astronomical meridian through the centre of the township.

Department of the Interior, Ottawa, 15th Aug

Approved and Confirmed.

Chen
Surveyor

Homestead.

Plan of Township 75, Range 22, West of the Fifth Meridian

SCALE 40 CHAINS ' 1



NOTE: The subdivisions of quarter sections shown upon this plan are legal subdivisions. Distances are in chains. Bearings are reckoned from the astronomical meridian through the centre of the township. Areas in acres are marked on all lands surveyed. Areas are taken to the bank of Little Smoky river.

98

ALBERTA

Plan of Township 75, Range 21, West of the Fifth Meridian

SECOND EDITION CORRECTED

SCALE 40 CHAIN

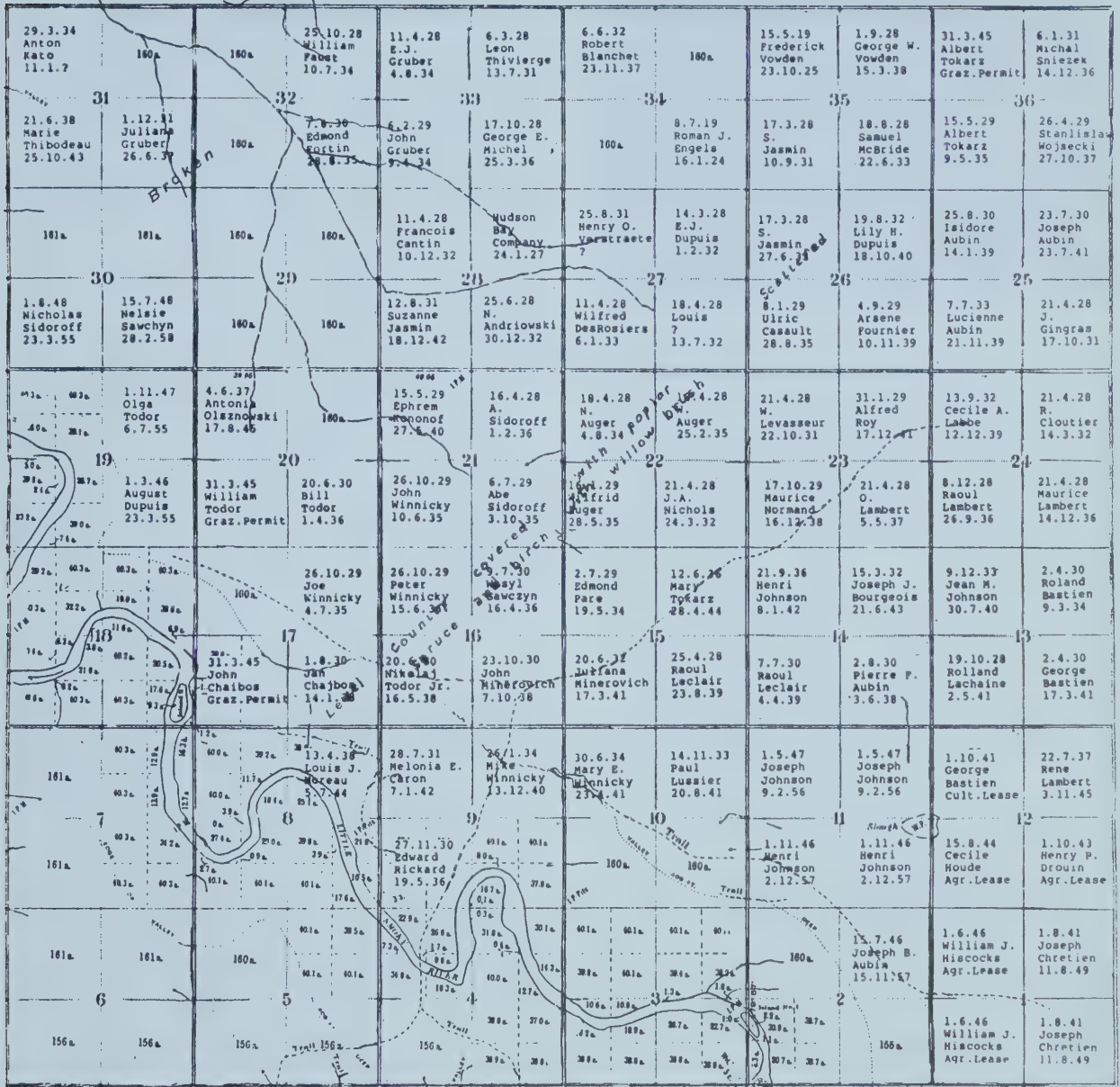


PHOTO-SURVEYED AT THE SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE

Compiled from official surveys by

J. H. Smith.....D.L.S.....13th November, 1910
W. H. Waddell.....D.L.S.....6th June, 1914

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE
NUMBERING OF LEGAL SUB-
DIVISIONS IN A SECTION

13	14	15	16
12	11	10	9
8	7	6	5
4	3	2	1

Department of the Interior, Ottawa, 14th Decr

Approved and Confirmed.

Cheney
Survey

NOTE: The subdivisions of quarter sections shown upon this plan are legal subdivisions. Distances are in chains. Bearings are reckoned from the astronomical meridian through the centre of the township. Areas in acres are marked on all lands surveyed. Areas are taken to the banks of Little Smoky river.

Homestead.

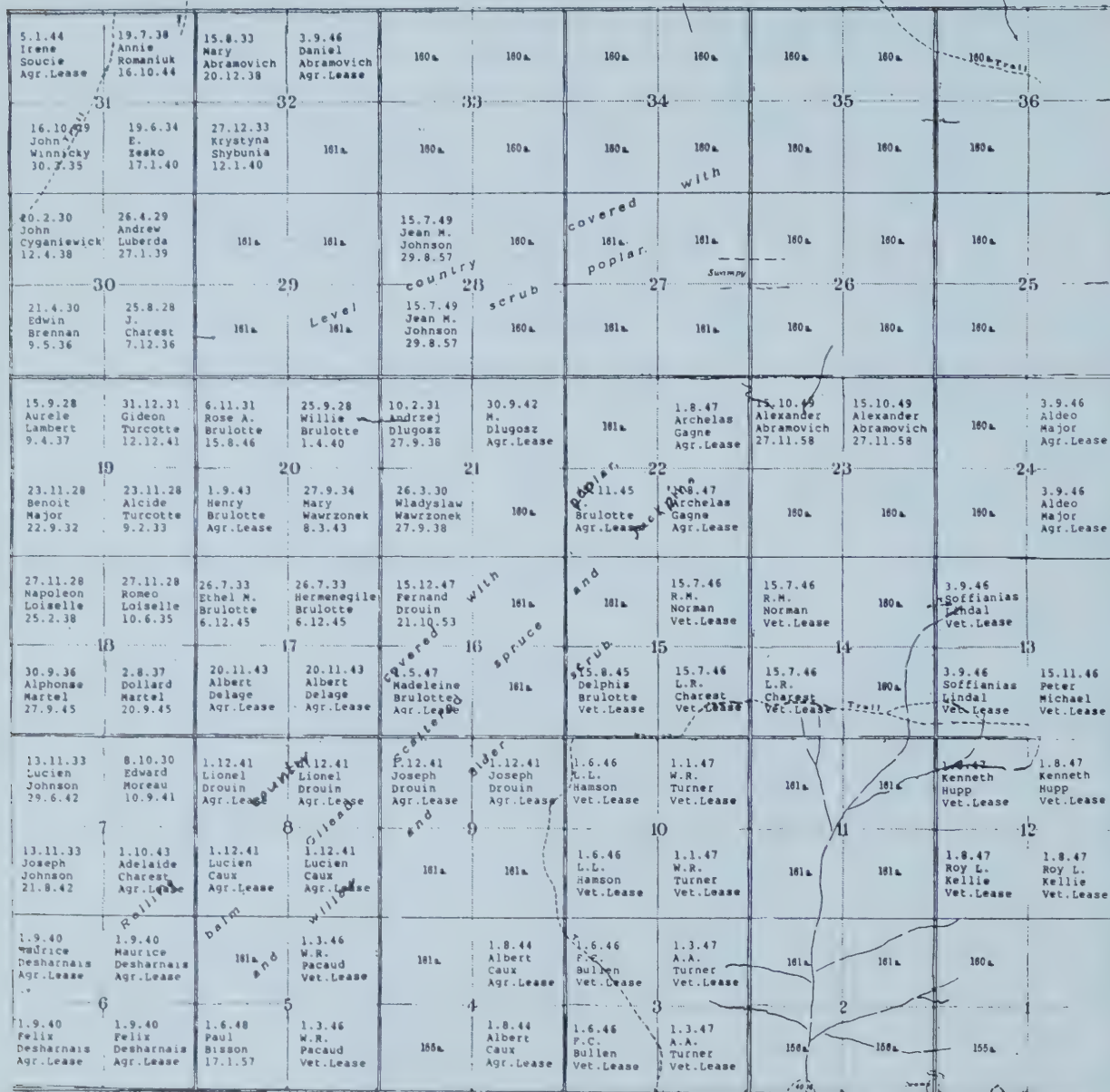
ALBERTA

Plan of Township 75, Range 20, West of the Fifth Meridian

SECOND EDITION, CORRECTED

Made under the authority of subsection 4 of section 60 of the
Dominion Lands Survey Act.

SCALE 40 CHAINS



compiled from official surveys by

J. H. Smith, D.L.S., 4th November, 1910
W. H. Waddell, D.L.S., 18th May, 1914
J. J. Stock, D.L.S., 14th July, 1914

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE
NUMBERING OF LEGAL SUB-
DIVISIONS IN A SECTION

13	14	15	16
9	10	11	12
5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4

NOTE: Distances are in chains. Bearings are reckoned from the astronomical meridian through the centre of the township. Areas in acres are marked on all lands surveyed.

Department of the Interior, Ottawa, 1911

Approved and Confirmed

Ed
Suri

Homestead.

THE LAND

by Jos Chaibos & Elphège Boulet

The Guy-Whitemud area, if we accept the roughness of the straight line, comprises townships 76, 75, 74 and the northern part of townships 73 in the ranges 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, west of the fifth meridian. The hamlet of Guy is situated approximately at 55° 35' N and 117° 06' W. Elevation of the plain is 2100 to 1900 feet. In topography one must say that the land is a very gently rolling plain, the Guy area sloping mostly to the SW with some areas sloping NW to the Peavine Creek basin and a portion draining NE to Wina-gami Lake. The Little Smoky River flows from the SE to the NW on a tortuous course in a deep valley and is rapidly eroding its banks; many creeks with steep banks empty into the Little Smoky. These creeks provide good drainage, however they were troublesome in road building and crossing from farm to farm, especially in the early days.

The immigration advertising and propaganda posters talked of almost free land in a land of freedom, they didn't elaborate or dwell on the fact that by 1928 the quarter or 64 hectares of homestead might well be forest; and the Guy-Whitemud area was an integral part of Alberta's Boreal Mixedwood Forest. There were majestic stands of merchantable white spruce and jack pine, but mostly it was white poplar, black poplar, willows and alders, all clinging tenaciously to the land they had occupied for thousands of years. The forest, with the river, formed an admirable habitat for moose, deer, rabbit and grouse which were far from negligible in the settler's survival. Such a patch of healthy forest, with big trees, the bigger the better, would have been a fortune in the heart of Poland; here it was a mixed blessing.

The forest provided the settlers with a supply of logs for their first buildings, rails and posts for fencing, and firewood; a number of small saw-mills existed, supplying the settlers with lumber, planks, square timbers for building and at times provided paid employment. The forest was also a major problem, to be cleared before cultivation was possible. A number of forest fires and agricultural development eventually destroyed nearly all of our forest. These fires were particularly disastrous for the white spruce as the poplar recovers more quickly.

The soil, predominantly, had been formed on glacial till, stratified till, or modified lacustrine material. The farm land in general is gray-wooded soil; the texture varies drastically from spots of heavy gray clay (gumbo) to areas of sand-based clay or areas of white hard pan with little



Champ de blé. / Wheat field.

or no organic matter. There are areas of peat moss and areas of clay loam as well as some with field rock making cultivation more difficult.

Far below, in the rock formation which were laid hundreds of millions of years ago when marine organisms teemed in the warm shallows of tropical seas, there is gas and oil. There are some producing wells, and continuing seismic and well-drilling activity in the area would indicate that the intriguing petroleum traps have not all been found. A number of farm boys work the crop-bearing formation in summer and search the deep formation with the petroleum industry in the winter; cash crops, in any season, are always welcome.

In the past twenty years some drainage canals or ditches have been constructed, like Jasmin drainage, Gunns Creek, Johnson and Peavine canals as well as some smaller systems. However this is very inadequate as the area has been opened very rapidly and the more rapid spring run-off creates flooding, erosion of farmland and roads. A better drainage system must be designed in the near future.

The hamlet of Guy is about 55 miles south of Peace River, that is twelve miles south of Donnelly and the railroad. People who now cross the Smoky River going north, who skim over the bridge and fly toward town on a paved, straight highway, through open fields, do not realize, unless they have known intimately the joys of starting a twenty or thirty mile trip to town with heavy wagon wheels running over rocks and stumps in a forest trail, cannot realize how land, time and distance have changed in fifty or sixty years.

Le Terrain.

Le district de Guy-Whitemud, si on accepte la simplicité arbitraire de la ligne droite, comprend les cantons (TWP) 76, 75, 74, et la partie nord des cantons 73 dans les rangs 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, à l'ouest du cinquième méridien. Le hameau de Guy se situe approximativement à 55° 35' N et 117° 6' O. L'élévation de la plaine est de 2100 à 19000 pieds. Il faut dire que la plaine est légèrement ondulée avec une pente générale vers le sud-ouest pour la région de Guy; une autre partie penche vers le bassin du Peavine au nord-ouest et une partie se draine vers le nord-est et le lac Winagami. La rivière Petite Smoky coule à travers la région du sud-est au nord-ouest dans une vallée escarpée et profonde; son cours rapide et tortueux ronge constamment les rives. Les petits ruisseaux de la plaine ont creusé aux abords de la rivière ces profonds ravins qui ont compliqué les communications et la construction de routes, surtout dans les premières années.

La publicité et les pancartes de propagande pour l'immigration parlait de terrain quasi gratuit dans un pays de liberté, on n'insistait pas sur le fait qu'en 1928 les 64 hectares ou le quart de section de "homestead" pourrait bien être dans la forêt; et la région Guy-Whitemud était justement partie intégrante de la grande forêt boréale de l'Alberta. Il y avait des talles de majestueuses épinettes blanches et des pins (jack pine) de valeur commerciale, mais il y avait surtout du tremble, du liard, des saules, et des aulnes tous bien attachés à ce sol qu'ils occupaient depuis des millénaires. La forêt avec la rivière formaient un habitat admirable pour l'original, le chevreuil, lièvre et perdrix qui furent loin d'être négligeables dans la survie des colons. Une telle étendue de forêt bien vivante, avec de gros arbres, plus ils étaient gros mieux c'était, aurait constitué un trésor en Pologne; ici ce n'était pas un pur cadeau.

La forêt fournissait, c'est vrai, le bois rond pour les premiers bâtiments, les perches et poteaux pour les clôtures, et le bois de chauffage; quelques petits moulins à scie existaient, fournissant les planches, madriers et grosses pièces équarries pour les bâtiments et parfois donnaient des emplois à salaire. La forêt était aussi un problème majeur dont il fallait se

débarrasser pour pouvoir cultiver; de nombreux feux de forêt et le développement agricole l'ont presque entièrement détruite. Les feux furent particulièrement désastreux pour l'épinette blanche puisque le tremble se remplace plus rapidement.

Le sol, de façon prédominante, a été formé sur les débris glaciaires, débris stratifiés ou matériaux lacustres modifiés. Les terres agricoles, en général ont la teinte grise du sol formé sous couvert forestier; la qualité physique varie de façon quasi brutale à partir de coin de glaise grise (gumbo) aux coins de glaise sablonneuse à ceux de terre blanche et dure avec peu ou pas de matière organique. Il y a des étendues de tourbière (muskeg) et de terre grasse, le curieux mélange d'argile, sable et humus, et des champs où les roches rendent la culture plus difficile.

Très loin dans le sous-sol, dans ces formations déposées il y a des centaines de millions d'années quand les organismes marins fourmillaient dans l'eau tiède des hauts-fonds de mers tropicales, il y a du gaz et du pétrole. Il y a des puits en production et l'activité en exploration sismique et en forage semble indiquer que les poches pétrolifères n'ont pas toute été découvertes. Un certain nombre de jeunes gens fouillent les formations profondes en hiver avec l'industrie pétrolière; les récoltes payantes sont bienvenues, en toutes saisons.

Au cours des vingt dernières années des canaux ou fossés de drainage ont été construits, comme le drainage Jasmin, Gunns creek, Johnson et Peavine, ainsi que des projets plus modestes. Mais c'est toujours insuffisant car le district a été ouvert très rapidement et la fonte des neiges plus rapide crée des inondations et l'érosion du sol et des routes. Un meilleur système de drainage devra être créé dans le futur très prochain.

Le hameau de Guy se trouve environ 55 milles au sud de Peace River, ou douze milles au sud de Donnelly et le chemin de fer. Les gens qui arrivent maintenant du sud, traversent la Smoky en effleurant à peine le pont et se bâtent au milieu des champs sur une route droite, pavée; ils ne savent pas, à moins d'avoir connu intimement les joies d'entreprendre un voyage de vingt ou trente milles au village avec des grosses roues de wagon cahotant sur les roches et les souches d'un sentier de forêt, ils ne peuvent pas savoir comment le terrain, le temps, la distance, ont changé en cinquante ou soixante ans.

APICULTURE

by Elphège Boulet

The soils of the region, and particularly the gray-wooded soil, are generally poor in organic matter, in nitrogen, and to fill this deficiency it is recommended to include legumes in the crop rotations. As the forest was pushed back it was replaced by fields of clover and alfalfa which produce seed and forage with yields that vary from year to year to an astonishing degree.

Apiculture depends on those fields of alsike and red clover and also on canola and suffers those variations as well, but on the average the Peace region will produce some 22,000,000 lbs. of honey, one quarter of the Canadian crop. Around Guy, apiculture and Gerry Paradis are synonymous; in the village it is the warehouses and extracting installations which are possibly the most modern of their kind in Canada, and in the fields throughout the district it is some 100 bee-yards of 40 hives each.

Very early in the spring, at the end of March or beginning of April, the locations can be recognized as snow is removed and hives are spread. The early years of apiculture in the region were more modest but in 1940 there were already a number of bee keepers stimulated by the enthusiasm of J.H. Tremblay, D.A. A few hives, primitive extracting facilities, but the honey was most welcome especially in the times of sugar rationing. The business evolved as some bee keepers



Shaking bees in Glen, California.

went to 50 then 200 hives and pioneered commercial apiculture in the area. In those days the bee packages were ordered from the United States and came by rail express, orders could be sent through Eaton's catalogue.

Nowadays, Paradis trucks and others go to Chico, California, to pick up the bees; if necessary it could be Mexico, Georgia or Louisiana. Chico is in the north of California's great Central Valley but it is still sixteen degrees of latitude

south of Guy, across the mountains. It is a region of vineyards, orchards and almond trees where the bee does not produce, as it does here, a world renowned honey, but it is a pollinating agent and the bee keepers rear bees and queens for exportation to the north. The rearing of fertile queen bees is a specialty requiring skill and a climate not found in Alberta, at least not early enough in the season.

In order to have, in July, a strong hive ready for nectar gathering, one must start in April. That is why snow is removed, hives are spread, and as soon as the trucks return from Chico the bees are installed, when spring still seems only a dream. The bees are fed syrup and pollen to foster de-



Inverted pails contain syrup to feed bees.

velopment of the hive; the original package contains some two pounds of bees, about 7,000 workers and a queen and the strong hive may have 50,000 workers in July. To reach that strength, the workerbees from Chico do not sulk very long. They clean, repair, build cells in which the queen will lay eggs, one per cell. They feed the brood and gather food not only from the man-supplied-syrup but from the first tree buds and pussy willows, from the earliest flowers. They literally wear themselves out and live no more than five weeks at that rate of activity; they will not see the fields of clover in bloom, the honey flow, but the hive will survive and expand.

The wintering of bees to break the dependency on this importation of bees every spring has received a lot of thought. Experiments were encouraged by the Dept. of Agriculture, and results to date indicate that a hive, with adequate space and food reserve in the fall, will winter well in a well ventilated warehouse kept at 32-34 degrees fahrenheit. In 1986-87, 800 hives, of the 900 Paradis hives which were wintered, were taken out apparently stronger and better acclimatized than those from California; but when costs and labor necessary for wintering are



Roma Boivin preparing a 300 gal. tank of syrup to feed the bees in early spring on arrival.



Eddy Gagne stacking, feeding covers.

considered they still cost more than those from Chico. Research will continue.

An average crop for Paradis' 4000 hives yields 1200 barrels of honey; sometimes the crop is less than 800 or can reach 2,000 barrels. The old man-powered extractor used centrifugal force and that is about the only thing it had in common with the mechanized, automated extractors of the Paradis enterprise which can extract, in eight hours, the honey from 800 to 900 supers; that is an average of 15 frames per minute to harvest 65 barrels (650 lbs of honey

per barrel) per day. Yet in that time of long days and flowers in bloom and cool nights which favor nectar secretion in flowers, when everything seems in tune, weather, temperature, humidity, the honey flow can be spectacular; in 1984, the year of the fabulous crop, the 4,000 hives filled frames faster than the extractors could empty them and they did that for several days.

In 1984 the hives averaged 325 to 350 pounds of honey, and in 1985 they could hardly gather 90 pounds in the drought ravaged fields. Of course that production is only the surplus, a fraction of total production as the hive consumes huge amounts for its activity; but apiculture must live from that surplus. Yet, from the point of view of the naturalist, the entomologist, the amateur, the businessman, that is indeed a river of honey.

The art of the bee keeper is measured in his ability to furnish conditions for the colony in reserves, protection and space in the hive so that the worker population will reach its peak just prior to the harvest. Vigilance and foresight against parasites, disease, predators, and the supply of food and space are mandatory. When Eddy Gagné talks of his syrup recipe it is not about a kettle on Marie's kitchen stove; he is



Checking hives.



Gerard Paradis and Jos St-Laurent smoking bees to pacify them while adding a super to the hive.

talking of 150 gallons of water, 800 kilos of sugar, and antibiotics as required. For the black bear which still considers himself at home around here he prepares an electric fence with a new controller, solar-powered...

Gerard Paradis has developed the art of the



Eddy Gagne cleaning the bear mess!

bee keeper since 1956. To care for the 4,000 hives he relies on the experience of Eddy Gagné and Roma Boivin who share 25 years and 22 years of experience with Paradis. For the future there is Paul Paradis, and other employees are regularly initiated to this exacting business. Ten full-time employees, another dozen or more for harvest, and many of Guy's young people found their first job "chez Paradis"...

* * *

Les sols de la région, et particulièrement le sol gris, sont généralement pauvres en matière





Jos Johnson remettant l'essaim d'abeilles dans la ruche. Henri Johnson surveille l'opération, 1946.

organique, en azote, et pour combler cette déficience on recommande d'inclure des légumineuses dans les rotations. A mesure que la forêt recule, les champs de trèfles et de luzerne la remplacent et produisent de la graine ou du foin avec des rendements qui varient d'une année à l'autre de façon presque stupéfiante.

L'apiculture dépend de ces champs de trèfle alsike et de trèfle rouge et des champs de colza, et subit elle aussi les variations, mais le pays de la Rivière La Paix produit quelques 22 000 000 livres de miel par année, le quart du miel canadien. A Guy l'apiculture et l'entreprise de Gérard Paradis sont synonymes; au village ce sont les installations d'entreposage et d'extraction, peut-être les plus importantes du genre au Canada, et dans les champs à travers le district ce sont une centaine de ruchers de 40 ruches chacun.

Très tôt au printemps, à la fin mars ou début avril, on reconnaît les locations dans ces espaces nouvellement déblayés de neige où on étend les ruchers. Les débuts de l'apiculture dans la région furent plus modestes mais il y avait déjà en 1940 un nombre d'apiculteurs encouragés par l'enthousiasme de l'agronome J.H. Tremblay. Quelques ruches, un équipement d'extraction tout-à-fait artisanal, mais le miel surtout au temps du rationnement de sucre, était plus que bienvenu. Les exploitations ont évolué et certains apiculteurs avec 50 puis 200 ruches ont commencé l'apiculture commerciale. Dans ces premiers temps on faisait venir les paquets d'abeilles des Etats-Unis par le train, on pouvait même les commander par le catalogue Eaton.

Aujourd'hui les camions Paradis vont chercher les paquets d'abeilles à Chico en Californie; en cas de nécessité ça pourrait être au Mexique, en Georgie, en Louisiane. Chico se trouve dans le nord de la grande Vallée Centrale de la Californie, c'est quand même à seize degrés de latitude au sud de Guy, au-delà des montagnes.

C'est un pays de vignes, de vergers, d'amandiers où l'abeille ne produit pas un miel de réputation mondiale comme ici, mais elle y est un agent de pollinisation et l'apiculteur y élève des abeilles et des reines pour l'exportation vers le nord. Le seul élevage de reines fécondes requiert un climat qui n'existe pas en Alberta, du moins pas assez tôt dans la saison.

Pour avoir en juillet une ruche en pleine force et prête à la cueillette du nectar il faut commencer en avril. C'est pourquoi on déblaie la neige des locations, on étend les ruches, et dès que les camions arrivent de Chico, on installe les abeilles alors que le printemps ne semble encore qu'un rêve. Il faut nourrir les abeilles au sirop et au pollen pour encourager le développement de la ruche; le paquet original de deux livres d'abeilles et une reine compte environ 7 000 ouvrières et la bonne ruche en juillet aura une force de 50 000 ouvrières. Pour y arriver les ouvrières de Chico ne boudent pas longtemps, elles nettoient, réparent, construisent les cellules pour que la reine y dépose les oeufs, un par cellule; elles nourrissent le couvain, cueille la nourriture non seulement dans le sirop fourni par l'homme mais aux premiers bourgeons, aux premières fleurs. Elles s'usent littéralement à la tâche et vivent au plus cinq semaines à ce rythme d'activités; elles ne verront pas les beaux champs de trèfle en fleur, la coulée du miel, mais la ruche survivra, se développera.

Depuis longtemps on pense à hiberner les abeilles pour se libérer de cette dépendance sur l'importation d'abeilles à chaque printemps. Les expériences sont encouragées par le ministère de l'agriculture et les résultats à date indiquent que les ruches bien nourries à l'automne et mises en entrepôt, où l'on maintient la température de 32 à 34 degré F, avec une bonne ventilation, hivernent très bien. En 1986-87, 800 des 900 ruches Paradis mises en hivernage sont sorties au printemps apparemment plus fortes et mieux acclimatées que celles de Californie, mais en considérant les coûts et la main-d'oeuvre nécessaires à l'hivernage elles coûtent toujours plus cher que celles de Chico. Les expériences se poursuivent.

Une récolte ordinaire donne environ 1200 barils de miel; il arrive que la récolte tombe à moins de 800 et peut aller jusqu'à 2000 barils. L'ancien extracteur à manivelle utilisait la force centrifuge lui aussi mais c'est à peu près la seule chose qu'il avait en commun avec les extracteurs mécanisés, automatisés de l'entreprise Paradis qui peuvent extraire le miel de 800 à 900 hausses en huit heures, une moyenne de plus de 15 cadres à la minute pour 65 barils

de 650 livres par jour. Mais au temps des "longs jours et des fleurs écloses" et des nuits fraîches qui favorisent la sécrétion du nectar dans les fleurs, quand tout s'accorde, temps, température et humidité, la coulée de miel peut être spectaculaire; en 1984, année de la récolte fabuleuse, les 4000 ruches d'abeilles ont rempli les cadres plus vite que les extracteurs pouvaient les vider, et cela pendant plusieurs jours.



Barils de miel.

En 1984, les ruches ont produit de 325 à 350 livres de miel chacune, et en 1985, dans les champs ravagés par la sécheresse elles ont péniblement récolté 90 livres par ruche. Comme de raison cette production n'est que le surplus, une fraction de la production totale, car l'abeille en consomme beaucoup pour son activité, mais l'apiculture commerciale doit vivre de ce surplus. Que ce soit du point de vue du naturaliste, de l'entomologiste, de l'amateur ou du commerçant, c'est une véritable rivière de miel.

L'art de l'apiculteur se mesure par son abilité à fournir les conditions pour la colonie en réserves, protection et espace dans la ruche pour que la population ouvrière atteigne son apogée juste avant la récolte. Vigilance et prévoyance contre les parasites, maladies et prédateurs et pour fournir la nourriture et l'espace; quand Eddy Gagné parle de sa recette de sirop ce n'est plus la marmite de la cuisine, il s'agit de 150 gallons d'eau, 20 sacs de 40 kilos de sucre et des anti-biotiques si nécessaire. Pour l'ours noir qui se croit toujours chez lui il prépare une clôture électrique avec un nouveau contrôleur à cellule solaire...

Gérard Paradis a développé l'art de l'apiculteur et pour surveiller les 4000 ruches il compte sur l'expérience d'Eddy Gagné et de

Roma Boivin qui ont 25 ans et 22 ans d'expérience avec Paradis. Pour la relève il y a Paul Paradis, et on initie constamment d'autres employés à ce métier exigeant. Une dizaine d'employé à plein temps, une douzaine de plus au temps de la récolte, et souvent les jeunes de Guy trouvent leur premier emploi "chez Paradis".

4-H CLUB

by Raymonde Lussier, from Edith Lonfat's notes

Being a ten year old girl growing up in Guy meant that you had the opportunity to join the 4-H Club. We had a wonderful club under the very capable direction of Mrs. Edith Lonfat. The dedication of the mothers made the club a success. Many took turns leading the club, driving the members around and opening their homes to exchange members. Some of the leaders and helpers were: Mrs. Germaine Turcotte, Mrs. Alice Besse, Mrs. Eileen Eldridge, Mrs. Diane Gagnon, Mrs. Lily Brulotte, Mrs. Claudette Wawrzonek, Mrs. Cécile Aubin and Mrs. Céline Gagnon.

We were called the Zip Stitchers, appropriately named as we started out as a sewing club when 4-H began in Guy in 1972. Over the five years in existence we were also an arts and crafts club and a junior leadership club. The 4-H motto is: "Learn to Do by Doing" and that we did; learning skills that are still useful to us today.

We had meetings and elected our officials and later when our business session was completed, we'd work on our projects. There were also a lot of activities organized. We went curling in Spirit River, Falher, Slave Lake and Girouxville. We also went bowling in Peace River and one year we played bingo with the patients of the McLennan Nursing Home. We also made a float for the 1976 and 1977 Donnelly Agricultural Fair parade.

A big part of 4-H is interaction with children of other clubs. We had the opportunity to meet at the various camps like the district camp in Kinuso and the regional camp in Spirit River. I attended Camp Negeewagun at Red Willow south of Beaverlodge during the summer of 1975. We did all the usual fun camp activities like singing songs around the fire and going on an overnight camp-out in the wilderness, but we also had sessions on "Natural Observation", "Conservation" and "Independence." There are two things that I remember vividly about the camp. One was being caught with elbows on the table and having to leave the dinner table, run up a huge hill and ring the bell located at the top. After being caught a few times and returning to a

ZIP STITCHERS 4 - H CLUB: 1972 - 1976

Information from Alberta Department of Culture, Youth and Recreation

Club Officers:	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
President:	Mary Lonfat	Tammy Minarovich	Micheline Aubin	Tanice Besse	Diane Turcotte
Vice Pres:	Raymonde Aubin	Leona Snizek	Barbara Eldridge	Diane Turcotte	Linda Lonfat
Secretary:	Juliette Caron	Linda Lonfat	Diane Turcotte	Raymonde Aubin	Barbara Eldridge
Treasurer:	Angele Aubin	Diane Turcotte	Raymonde Aubin	Linda Lonfat	Tanice Besse
Librarian:	Cheryl Turcotte	Barbara Eldridge	Ann Doris		
Club Reporter:	Micheline Aubin	Kathy Horvath	Tanice Besse	Diane Turcotte	Bernadette Forseill
District Council Rep:	Mary Lonfat	Cheryl Turcotte	Linda Lonfat	Rachel Aubin	Diane Turcotte

Club Members - 1972 to 1976 - number of years in Club (5):

Aubin, Angele (1)	Drouin, Rejeanne (1)	Larose, Diane (3)
Aubin, Micheline (3)	Drouin, Gabrielle (1)	Lloyd, Shelly (1)
Aubin, Rachel (5)	Dupuy, Joyce (1)	Lonfat, Linda (5)
Aubin, Raymonde (5)	Eldridge, Barbara (5)	Lonfat, Mary (1)
Besse, Beverly (2)	Forseille, Bernadette (4)	Minarovich, Leslie (4)
Besse, Tanis (2)	Fulton, Jody (2)	Minarovich, Tammy (4)
Cardinal, Patty (3)	Gagnon, Carol (5)	Minarovich, Sandy (2)
Chaibos, Susan (3)	Gagnon, Gail (1)	Minarovich, Sherry (2)
Caron, Juliette (1)	Horvath, Katherine (3)	Moostoos, Beverly (1)
Despins, Carol (1)	Isadore, Audrey (1)	Snizek, Leona (1)
Despins, Lucie (1)	Isadore, Lorna (1)	Soucy, Denise (2)
Doris, Anne (5)	Lamarche, Susan (1)	Sowan, Margaret (2)
		Wawrzonek, Valerie (1)



Speak-off winners 1977: Rachel Aubin, Tanice Besse.

cold supper, we soon learnt our manners. The second thing I remember is having a heavy duty crush on the camp counsellor!

The Zip Stitchers hosted two interprovincial exchange members, one from Saskatchewan and one from New Brunswick. In 1973 we hosted six members from Manitoba and the next year some of our members returned to Manitoba, my sister, Micheline, being one.

Some eligible members went to club Week in Vermillion and one attended a sewing week at Olds. Four of us, Linda Lonfat, Diane Turcotte, Tanice Besse and I attended a junior parliament in Fairview. We had a great time and got a lot of practice at making and delivering speeches.

Perhaps what our club excelled the most in was public speaking. All the girls spoke at club level. Over the years those who made it to district level were: Tanice Besse, Diane Turcotte, Rachel Aubin, Mary Lonfat and myself. I really enjoyed public speaking and won every year at the local and district level and went on to re-

gional level where I took first place one year. As a junior, I could not compete at the provincial level but one of our members, Mary Lonfat, spoke there before joining the Zip Stitches.



Conservation camp: Raymonde Aubin 4H.

Speech prepared and presented by Raymonde Aubin (Lussier) 14 yrs. old at the regional 4-H Speak-Offs.

Pet Rocks

I have heard of pet cats, pet dogs but I have never heard of PET ROCKS. At first I did not take this idea seriously, but after we received a PET ROCK as a gift, the idea began to grow on me.

Last year a man in California, U.S.A. who was financially rock bottom had this fantastic idea. He introduced a new pet that has been on this earth ever since it has begun; a PET ROCK. The first PET ROCKS were sold as a fund raising project. Each in its own little box, the PET ROCKS were sold at a price of about \$4.00. The popularity of this pet grew to a demand where it became a booming business and he went from bankruptcy to a millionaire.

So what is so special about PET ROCKS? Many people have been asking this very question. PET ROCKS are very sensitive. You must not hurry your friendship with your new pet for it may be slightly traumatized from all the shipping required in bringing the two of you together. If your rock is very edgy, it is found that the ticking of an alarm clock placed near the box has a soothing effect; especially at night. It takes most PET ROCKS 72 hours to recuperate, then you may remove your new pet from its box.

Your PET ROCK is a devoted friend and companion and will enjoy a rather long lifespan. A PET ROCK is perfect for people who hate animals, are allergic to animals or who are not allowed to keep animals. When you own a PET ROCK you will never have to clean up nasty messes, and your pet will never keep you and the neighbors awake at night. PET ROCKS are welcome everywhere!

Your PET ROCK IS AN INDIVIDUAL. It did not come out of any old rock pile, you know. They descend from a long line of famous rocks. Their ancestors can be found among the rubble of the pyramids, the cobblestone streets of ancient European cities, and the Great Wall of China. Only the most intelligent and obedient rocks are allowed to bear the name of PET ROCK.

Your PET ROCK will need training, for nobody likes a misbehaving rock. Therefore, you must begin training immediately. Your PET ROCK should know who is boss, come, stay, sit, lay and fetch. They are especially good at "lay". Limit your training sessions to fifteen minutes, twice daily.

A healthy rock is a happy rock. Therefore it is extremely important to know first aid for your PET ROCK's sake. PET ROCKS are known to be very hardy, but there are some diseases and problems which will overcome your rock. For example: A CHIP OFF THE OLD ROCK. A chip off the old rock is much more serious than a chip off the young rock. In the first place, old rocks do not heal as quickly and first aid should be immediate. BLOOD OUT OF A ROCK. If you're getting blood out of your rock, you should contact the Revenue Canada Taxation Bureau immediately. They have been attempting to do this very thing for years. ROCK BOTTOM. If your PET ROCK is nervous and fidgety, it may have the serious disease of rock bottom.

Some people believe that rocks should be put in their place. A Unitarian church in San Fernando Valley charge a \$5.00 fee for the burial of PET ROCKS. Some pet owners have shown interest. The funeral services are accompanied by the hymn, "Rock of Ages" and by rock music.

Two more hints of advice in owning a PET ROCK: never approach a wild rock. It will only end up in headaches for wild rocks are known to misbehave and have no learning ability. Never turn your PET ROCK loose. The world is already overcrowded with discarded, unwanted rocks, and millions must be destroyed each year. REMEMBER: If you take care of your PET ROCK, your PET ROCK will take care of you.

Pet Rocks.

2ND 4-H CLUB IN GUY

by Barbara Arseneault

The Busy Beavers 4-H Club held its first meeting on November 27, 1978. Claudette Delage, Terry Arseneault, Suzanne Cloutier and Doris Fortier were the original members from Guy. Barb Arseneault and Claire Delage acted as club leaders. In later years, Suzanne and Carole Bisson and Marianne Gagne joined also.

This local sewing club held weekly meetings in Guy to work on various sewing projects. The girls gained a good basic knowledge of all aspects of sewing, and also learned a few crafts such as knitting, crocheting or macrame.

Our club from Guy was only part of a much larger 4-H club that covered the whole M.D. of Smoky River. Their projects included a sewing club in Girouxville, a crafts club in Falher and a woodworking club in Donnelly. Once a month we would all get together to work on the other aspects of 4-H. These included public speaking in which members learned to give a three minute prepared speech, as well as do impromptu talks. Terry Arseneault from Guy reached the regional finals for all northern Alberta with her speech about Terry Fox in 1981.

Highway clean-up was another annual chore. One weekend every spring, members picked up the garbage from the ditches along a twelve mile stretch of highway. This was a fund raising event sponsored by Alberta Transportation, but it also made members realize how much easier it is to use the garbage containers provided along our highways.

Each year 4-H devoted one day to public service. Our club in Guy cleaned the church every year after the spring mud had dried.

Our club hosted a Peace Country 4-H fair at the Sportex in Donnelly one year. Girls all over the Peace River area displayed their many projects and tested their knowledge against other clubs.

Some of our members attended local and provincial camps sponsored by 4-H. Another time, they attended the Northlands Super Rodeo in Edmonton. Our club also took the river boat

trip down the Peace River and stayed overnight on Tar Island.

The club in Guy was active for three years until May 1981. Perhaps most of all we learned "4-H ain't all cows and cooking." We shared in so many learning experiences. Our memories of 4-H will be with us always.

* * *

INVENTIONS



Bernard Boulet fabrique un séchoir à grain. / Grain dryer.



Invention. The ultimate solution, perhaps: a rice combine designed for muddy conditions. When he found it at a nearby dealership, Nick Shybunia snapped the machine up.

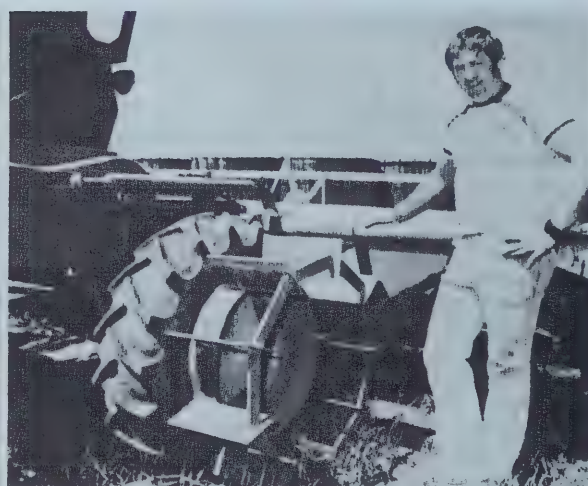


"Dinosaure" pour le ramassage des racines. Antoine Boulet et son cousin Camille Boulet. / Root picker.



When John (left) and Henry Minarovich mounted tracks on their swather, the rear wheel continued to cause trouble. So they used a homemade metal replacement

Invention.



Paddle wheels added to both his swather and combine kept Jack Noel's equipment mobile. Paddles caused very little soil damage

FARMING



Sidoroff pulling stumps.



Bruno Turcotte on his farm.



Stooking time at John Charest's in 1929: Aimé, Larry, Mrs. Charest and Albert.



Albert Charest clearing his land.



Threshing time at Vowden's — early thirties.



Gaston Mencke on tractor. Gustave Mencke on binder.



Seeding time. Eleodore Lariviere. (1940's)



Haying time, Gerard Duguay and Benoit Major.



Lévie Verstraete on his dad's new tractor in 1944 with stook loader.



A pile of wheat waiting to be dried in Paul Emile Maisonneuve's field. (1968)



Wheat pile, 1968, Henri Brulotte.



1986 Harvest. Combines: 2 Mencke, 1 Dechief, 1 Verstraete, 1 Caron; 3½ hours to combine 160 acres.



Andree, Jack and Harold Doris cultivating the potato patch (1947).



Wood sawing at B. Aubin farm. Denis, Benoit and Jules.



Branding and dehorning cattle at Henry Dumont's farm.

MISCELLANEOUS PHOTOS



Loading ice on Smoky River by Mr. Aubin for Armand Gervais.



Snow clearing by Roland Desharnais, 1979–80.



Wood sawing bee, chez Cloutier; Roland, Marie Ange, and the twins Paul and Henry.

THE LITTLE SMOKY FARM INDUSTRIES STORY

by Leo Hamson

When the Second World War ended in 1945, vast numbers of returning veterans were compelled to make a momentous decision – how best to make the difficult transition from years of military life to “civvy street”. Many returned to

find growing children whom they hardly knew. They had to wipe from their minds the haunting, unpleasant memories of war, and bend all their attention and energies to picking up their lives where they left off, or creating entirely new ones.

In this latter category was a remarkable group of veterans who banded together to settle on homesteads south of Guy in the spring of 1946, determined to create an innovative agricultural and social experiment in co-operative living. As few such ventures had been tried previously in Canada, the government was not overly enthusiastic about lending support. It took considerable persuasion to overcome their skepticism and get the necessary Orders-in-Council passed to legalize certain aspects of the scheme.

As it turned out, the venture did not succeed, and the reasons for this are worthy of study from an historical perspective.



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo #A14333. General view of Little Smoky Farm industries in 1946 before houses were painted and sided.

The location chosen for their now-vanished settlement was an 80-acre tract leased and later purchased from the Crown on the NE quarter of Section 35, Township 74, Range 21. This is the point where the road straight south from Donnelly ends at its junction with the Correction Line which is today Highway 2. The distance to Guy is 6 miles, and to Donnelly 18 miles. Today this land is owned by Arthur Bastien.

Of the eight veterans who formed the group, seven had been commissioned Army officers, some of senior rank, and the eighth had long service with the Air Force, first as an engineer, then as aircrew on heavy bombers. During the savage battles in Normandy Captain John Hiscocks had been seriously wounded. Another, Major Roy Bray, wounded while getting his squadron of tanks ashore on D-Day, was awarded the Distinguished Service Order, one of the Highest decorations for valour, and was

made second-in-command of his regiment. Lieut. Len Wright had been an R.C.M.P. officer before entering the Army. Another, Captain Fred Bullen, was appointed as a General Staff Officer for Military District 13 in Calgary after his return from overseas service.

All were married, well-educated, and came from very diverse and interesting backgrounds in widely separated parts of Canada and the world. Capt. Hiscocks had lived in many parts of the world, and came from English family who for many years operated sugar plantations in British Guiana, South America. It was there that he met and married a Canadian United Church missionary and home economist. On the outbreak of war, he came to Canada with his wife and young son to join the Canadian Army. He was commissioned and sent overseas, and it was while on loan to the British Army with the rank of Captain that he was wounded.

It was therefore understandable that when this strange group of newcomers arrived to settle in this area populated sparsely and almost entirely by people of French-Canadian, Central European and Slavic origins, they were regarded with a great deal of interest and polite curiosity which quickly developed into warm friendship and respect.

The means by which these veterans first met and formed their association were rather curious, and in some cases purely by chance. A few had served in the same units, but most met for the first time as they were passing through discharge centers at the end of the war. The original members and places of origin were as follows:

Major Roy Bray, D.S.O., and wife Marguerite from Benscarth, Manitoba, and son Richard.

Major William R. Pacaud and wife Vivian, from Winnipeg, and son Garth.

Capt. John Hiscocks and wife Anne, from British Guiana, South America, and sons Richard and Ian.

Capt. Fred C. Bullen and wife Inez, from Calgary, and children Robert, Ronald and Carol.

Lieut. Leon J. Wright, from Winnipeg, and wife Patricia, from Lethbridge, and children Victoria and Douglas.

Flight-Sgt. Edwin F. Hamson and wife Dorothy, from Toronto, and daughter Marcia.

Lieut. Leo Hamson, from Toronto and brother to the above, and wife Ruth from Kinuso, AB and children Karl and Marilyn.

There had actually been another member of the group who should be mentioned, Capt. Ronald Grant. Because he possessed a degree in Agriculture, he was very much regarded as a key man in the hopes of the group. There was great

dismay when he was forced to withdraw just as the first house was being made livable. His wife arrived, took one look at the wilderness in which she was expected to live, and refused to stay. This was a great blow right at the outset. The furniture they had brought was sold to the others, and they quickly departed. They were not heard from again, although it was understood that Grant had obtained a high-level job with the Veterans Land Act in B.C.

Soon after, the credibility of John Donnelly was brought into question, and his resignation was accepted. Ed Hamson, then out of the Air Force and living in Toronto, was invited to fill the vacancy. Aside from his brother Leo, he had never met any of the others. He then married his war-time fiancée Dorothy Couling, and they set out on the long drive west.

The project had been conceived by John Donnelly. During his last few months in the Army, he was moved frequently from camp to camp, and in each Officers' Mess he discoursed eloquently on his ideas to anyone who would listen. An unknown number expressed some interest, then faded away. But eventually he and his disciples obtained commitments to the number he had in mind, and all of them applied for their Army discharges. Two of these, Leo Hamson and Fred Bullen, experienced some difficulty in retiring from the Forces, as they had just signed on for a further three years' service, but managed to extricate themselves. In so doing, they had to renounce their promotions – Hamson to captain and Bullen to major.

Some organizational meetings were held in the MacDonald Hotel in Edmonton, and there were conferences in government offices with top officials. Each qualified veteran electing to settle under the Veterans' Land Act was entitled to a grant of \$2,320.00 from the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs. This was not given in cash, but could be used to cover approved developmental expenditure requested by the veteran, and would be paid to the supplier on his behalf. It could be used for such things as clearing and breaking, livestock and machines. If the veteran stuck with it for ten years, the grant was forgiven. Otherwise, the government would repossess what they could.

The part played by the Province was the granting of 320 acre homestead leases. The terms of these did not differ in any way from those granted to non-veterans. The same obligations of year by year development and residence applied. At the end of twenty years' satisfaction of these requirements, title would be granted. Otherwise the land could be re-possessioned by the

Crown. In later years, there was some relaxation of these requirements.

One of the main attractions in forming the Little Smoky Farm Industries was the desirability of pooling these D.V.A. grants so that a wider variety of machinery could be acquired, recognizing that many expensive items are used for only a brief time each year. This could be further expanded by investing their own savings, although most veterans had precious little after six years of war.

The most audacious and exciting idea was to purchase a mighty machine to clear land and build roads – a used "war surplus" International TD-18 bulldozer with a 12-foot blade. So common today, such machines at that time were known only from news reports of their use in building the Alaska Highway and clearing paths through war wreckage in Europe. Thus it was that a curious crowd gathered to watch when it was unloaded from a railway flat-car in High Prairie. Along with it came a massive steel Hoover brush-cutter which could be attached in place of the bulldozer blade. The late Max Vanderaegen stepped from the crowd to ask if it could dig a basement for the large two-story building he planned to erect. The job was done, and the hardware store still stands as one of High Prairie's major buildings.

By March 1946, most of the group had assembled in High Prairie, which was chosen as their temporary base for locating and exploring their new lands, and for making preparations to move out as soon as spring break-up permitted. At that time, roads to their area were virtually non-existent, and the few trails were quagmires. While waiting for the last of the snow to disappear, there was further organizational work to be



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo #A14294. When first building completed April 1946, L. to R. Front: Fred Bullen, Len Wright, Roy Bray. Back row: Bill Pacaud, Gerard Duguay (hired), Leo Hamson, Ron Grant.

done, and reconnaissance trips were made with hired horses to locate survey stakes and mounds and explore their new lands. This was no easy task, as the terrain varied from heavy forest to burned-over areas and the stakes were difficult to find.

Some of the first arrivals brought their families with them, and found accommodation in the primitive hotel and in a house rented from Mrs. A.D. Randall. Leo Hamson and Len Wright had not yet brought their families, and lived in one of the two tents with wooden floors and walls that they erected in Mrs. Randall's yard. The other was used as an office and storage for the growing stock of supplies. Lumber was purchased and a small building was pre-fabricated to be taken out later in sections along the trail they planned to cut.

As the only access to the new settlement from High Prairie was by the long and circuitous route via McLennan and Donnelly, the next priority was to move the bulldozer with its 4-ton brushcutter and other accessories directly cross-country, and in so doing create a new trail that would cut the distance to about 25 miles. For much of the distance it would have to cut and smash its way through heavy timber along the route which is now the paved highway. There was concern about a deep ravine and stream that had been encountered on an earlier exploration. It was decided that a bridge would have to be constructed across the stream at the bottom before the bulldozer arrived, as there did not appear to be any easier crossing.

To accomplish this, an advance party consisting of Roy Bray, Len Wright, John Donnelly, Bill Pacaud, and Leo Hamson set out, armed with axes, hand saw, sledge hammers, a 100 pound keg of 12-inch spikes, camping gear, and food supplies. As the primitive trail ended a great distance from the ravine, all of this had to be carried to the work site on the men's backs, through the woods and some muskeg. A bivouac was set up, then followed three days of back-breaking labor building a miniature version of the celebrated "Bridge on the River Kwai". At that time, power chain saws were almost unknown. The enormously heavy green poplars were felled with axes and dragged and carried down the hillside. The bridge consisted of several courses of logs spiked together, and when it was considered strong enough to support the 14-ton bulldozer towing the 4-ton brushcutter, the weary builders broke camp and headed toward their settlement via McLennan and Donnelly.

In High Prairie, John Hiscocks took charge of the bulldozer, assisted by Jack Burley, who was



Provincial Archives of Alberta Phot #A14319. Children of Little Smoky and some of houses, not yet sided and painted.

hired as a "catskinner". He was an Air Force veteran with a farm in the old Little Smoky Settlement just west of Triangle for many years. He knew the country well. These two then set out on the long bone-rattling journey cross-country to the new Little Smoky Farm Industries site, where a building crew was already hard at work, breaking the quiet of the lengthening spring evenings with the sounds of hammers and saws. Parts of the route over old burn areas were relatively easy, but the Correction Line surveyed in 1915 was difficult to see in the heavy timber, and they had to smash their way through, at times getting off course.

Eventually, those working on the new houses heard the roaring and crashing of the great machine in the distance, and there was great rejoicing as the clanking monster hove into view and turned into camp. As the grimy crew dismounted, the first question they were asked by their proud and grinning mates was,

"Well, how did you like the nice bridge we built you?"

"Bridge? What bridge?"

After a stunned silence, the truth came out. When they encountered the ravine, they had been off the Correction Line and did not see the bridge. This did not worry Jack Burley, who knew the local geography well. They simply altered course north for no great distance until the ravine petered out to a shallow gully that was easily crossed. The greatly chagrined builders of the engineering masterpiece had been unable to see very far in the dense woods, and had assumed that so deep a ravine must run many miles. They consoled themselves with the thought that at least they would have a bridge for future access to High Prairie.

But Mother Nature had something else in

mind. The following spring it was discovered that the bridge had vanished – washed down to the Little Smoky River by the spring run-off. It had never once been used, except perhaps by the big game that abounded in those days.

Today, at this same spot, the speeding motorist scarcely notices the ravine due to the long grading by highway engineers, but if he will glance to the south side of the crossing, not only will the original depth of ravine be appreciated, but traces of the forest trail will be discerned winding up the west bank. Not only did those veterans cut the trail by their own sweat and expense – in later years they harassed and lobbied the Department of Highways to choose and up-grade this route which ultimately became a major highway. Perhaps this is their most enduring monument, even though it came too late to benefit them, and their contribution has been largely forgotten.

During those first weeks there was frantic activity, the first priority being the construction of eight houses, a store, and workshop. The houses were each 18' x 24' and were aligned in two rows of four with a spacious compound in the middle. One was of two stories, and was assigned to the Bullens, being the largest family. As hauling good lumber from distant suppliers was very difficult, most of it was acquired by bartering with other settlers who might have a stack of it in their yards sawn by portable sawmills from logs they had cut themselves the previous winter. All of it was unplanned, rough and uneven, and rather green – a real challenge for totally inexperienced carpenters. Gerard Duguay, the nearest neighbor and an experienced carpenter, was hired as foreman for building the first house, after which he returned to his spring work on his farm and the others felt confident they could continue on their own.

While this was under way, some of the men were put on “detached duty” locating and assessing the eight half-sections on foot to determine which parts would be the easiest to clear, pile, burn, and break first. It was hoped that if they moved fast enough it might be possible to have at least a small crop of green-feed oats the first year which could also act as “nurse-crop” for alfalfa seeded with it which would be harvested for its seed the next and subsequent years. As time was pressing and the bulldozer had not yet arrived, Mitch Brulotte was hired to clear, pile and burn some old burned-over areas, then break it, pick the roots, and work it down to an acceptable seeding bed. The men rotated in working with him, everything except the ploughing being done with their hands and



Provincial Archives of Alberta Phot #14343. McCormick Deering tractor in spring mud at Little Smoky Farm Industries, 1947.

backs. They learned first-hand about the dirty, arduous labor which their predecessors had endured in creating their farm, and longed for the arrival of their heavy equipment.

The land could not be obtained in one block, partly because not all of it was desirable, but chiefly because there were scattered settlers already there who had moved in before and during the war. Hence some of the land filed on was as far as five miles from the residential settlement. Due to the lack of roads, this added greatly to the difficulties.

As quickly as the roof was on and the windows installed, each house would be assigned to a member, who would then send for his family. Work on the next house would start immediately. When they had all reached the basic shelter stage, the group work was shifted to other priorities, and each member was expected to complete the inside finishing and winterize it on his own “off-duty” time. As there was very little of that, these brave ex-city folk endured the most primitive living conditions until well into the next year.

A major item in the original planning had been the establishment of a general store which could buy merchandise wholesale, which would not only serve the members, but would also be welcomed by area farmers. This was the purpose of the building which had been pre-fabricated in High Prairie while waiting for the country to dry up. An ill-considered decision was made to haul it out via the shortest route along the Correction Line.

It was taken as far as possible with the newly purchased “Army Surplus” truck, then transferred to a high-wheeled farm wagon pulled by a

team of horses. Roy Bray and Leo Hamson made several miles with this ungainly outfit before it sank to the axles in a stretch of quagmire. The horses were unhitched and ridden several more miles to the homestead of Gerard Duguay, who generously lent them two of his horses and extra chains. As even four horses could not budge it, the wagon and its outsized load were abandoned.

Months later, the bulldozer was sent to fetch it, the trail having dried out somewhat. It was still intact and undisturbed, although the site of this misadventure was right in the middle of today's highway. By that time another store had already been built to the same dimensions, so the rescued building was assembled and added on as an annex. The store was stocked and opened for business, much to the delight of the members and neighbors for miles around. It was a great success in the early years, but ultimately had to be closed down for lack of stock because funds were siphoned off to meet desperate emergencies in other activities of the enterprise. The loss of this great convenience due to failures in other departments was very disheartening, particularly to the wives. The final end of the store came on May 6, 1948, when the building burned in the great forest fire.



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo #14291. The Little Smoky Brush Piler with Leo Hamson and son Karl.

To meet the urgent need for immediate income, the "cat" and brush-cutter were sent out on custom work. Much of this was Veterans' Land Act contracts for other veterans. As well, they were able to do work on their own land and charge it against their own V.L.A. grants. But they were dismayed to learn how long it takes for government cheques to come through —many

months! In the interim, they survived by doing cash work for established farmers who could afford the rate of \$18.00 per hour for the whole outfit. In some cases bartering was done in exchange for work or materials. The Little Smoky River was crossed at a shallow ford, and most of one summer was spent clearing land in the Whitemud Creek area. Crews were rotated due to the extremely rigorous conditions. If the customer did not already have a house built in which they could shelter, the crew lived in tents. The worst thing was the day and night torment of attacks by vast swarms of mosquitoes that are rarely seen today now that the land has been opened up.

As the brush cutter left the cut trees in wind-rows about 12 feet apart, it was decided that a specialized piler rather than the bulldozer blade was required to push these cuttings into bigger piles for burning. Fred Bullen undertook to design and build, with the assistance of Len Wright, the first successful brush piler seen in this part of the country. A large arc welder and great amounts of heavy steel were purchased to build a massive piler 16 feet wide and six feet high. After much experimentation and alteration, it worked perfectly, and a great many homesteads over a wide area were cleared ready for the plough.

When the original planners had met in Edmonton, they recognized the need for a good water supply, but dismissed this as a minor problem. In their ignorance of the region, they assumed that it would only be necessary to dig one or two wells, as in most parts of Canada, and on first arriving a well was started. They were astounded to encounter heavy blue glacial clay such as they had never seen before, but persevered in deepening the hole until a curious and amused neighbor came by. They were stunned to learn from him that the only way to have water in that area was to dig a huge dug-out in which there would be no water until the next spring run-off. With eight families arriving soon and livestock to be acquired, this was a major crisis that was totally unexpected.

Dismayed but undaunted, they bought a pump and wooden tank mounted on a wagon and hauled water from the dug-outs of generous neighbors. The bulldozer excavated a large dug-out beside the settlement, hopeful that it would fill the following spring. For the next twelve months, the problem caused great hardship, particularly the first winter. All families drew their water from the tank parked in the compound, and great efforts with heaters were required to keep it from freezing when temperatures

dropped to -40F and even -60F. The supply was supplemented by melting vast quantities of the powdery, almost waterless snow, particularly for the four milk cows and team of horses. This required great amounts of firewood, and at times the whole water operation was a full-time job for one man. There was great joy when the new dug-out filled with water the next spring.

Little Smoky Farm Industries was beset by many problems and hardships that had never been foreseen. Among the worst was being marooned for long periods in winter and spring by the impassable road to Donnelly. One spring it took eleven hours to move two tons of supplies and five people the first three miles out of Donnelly, and 48 hours to make the whole 18-mile trip. Overnight stops were made at the homes of generous neighbors.



Provincial Archives of Alberta Photo #A14311. Inez Bullen, Ruth Hamson, Dorothy Hamson, Patricia Wright, visiting the Little Smoky threshing crew.

February 14, 1948 was a day that will never be forgotten as an example of the life and death hazards that might be faced by all settlers forced to rely on such roads. Leo Hamson, absent for several days on company business, had left his pregnant wife Ruth at the settlement. There was great dismay when she went into labor in the midst of a sudden storm that blocked the Donnelly road with massive snowdrifts. Frantic efforts to start the bulldozer in the bitter cold failed when the starter motor burned out. An attempt to get her to the hospital in a horse-drawn "caboose" also failed. The horses were exhausted after two miles of floundering in bell-deep snowdrifts. The party was given shelter by the George Bastien family, who were living there

at that time. Back at the settlement, they managed to start a tractor, and a car was towed up the road to bring Ruth back to her house. Twenty minutes later, Marilyn Leslie Hamson was born, with the assistance of Mrs. Mitch Brulotte, a kind and experienced neighbor who had been sent for. Fortunately, there were no complications. About a week later, Leo, who had been stranded in Donnelly, walked into camp unaware that he had missed the birth of his daughter, just as he had missed the birth of his son when he was overseas.

The group vowed to do something about the road. They prepared a petition and presented it with a list of signatures. The government agreed to elevate the road and cut the growth that was catching the snowdrifts, but it was not until the fall of 1950 that the work crew arrived, short of equipment and quite unconcerned about the lateness of the season. Alarmed by this and determined to get the job done, Little Smoky Farm Industries threw their own bulldozer and manpower into the battle at their own expense.



L. to R. Front: Ruth Hamson, Vivian Pacaud. Rear: Anne Hisssocks, Dorothy Hamson, Inez Bullen, Patricia Wright.

One morning Leo Hamson went up to take his shift on the "cat" when the work had got done as far as the Guy corner. He was stunned to find

that the crew had departed. The whole outfit was heading back to their winter quarters in Peace River, although the weather was still excellent. The enraged "Little Smoky-ites" rushed up the road, pausing in Donnelly just long enough to enlist three businessmen into their force, and raced to Peace River. They passed B.P.W. outfit on the road. A stormy session with the District Engineer resulted in orders for the crew to turn back and finish the job, although by that time they were only 10 miles from Peace River. There was great rejoicing when the grading reached the settlement entrance and the greatly annoyed crew lumbered back to Peace River.

However, the road was not gravelled until many years later, and in spring thaws or summer rains the gumbo was still a nightmare.

Disappointment and misfortune repeatedly assailed Little Smoky Farm Industries.

The most catastrophic and frightening disaster struck on May 6, 1949. At that time only the Wright, Hamson, and Bullen families were there. With little snow and no rain since it went, the woods and grass were tinder-dry. The sun was only a dull red disc in a sky filled with smoke from fires across the river. As the wind and smoke increased, confidence in the river barrier gave way to apprehension.

At 2.00 p.m. the school was closed and the neighbors' children sent home. The women begged Leo Hamson and Len Wright to investigate the source of the smoke before leaving for the fields. Fred Bullen was on a job with the bulldozer up the north road. Len and Leo set out on a tractor west along a rough trail that is now the highway. Leaving the tractor where the trail ended, they continued on foot to the rim of the valley. Looking down to where the highway bridge is today, they could see nothing but dense swirling smoke. Confident that the fire could not cross the river, they headed back to reassure their families. Standing on the drawbar of the jolting tractor while Len drove, Leo glanced into the woods on their right. His heart stopped. Great sheets of flame were racing toward them. The wind rose violently, and even at the top speed of the tractor, the fire reached the settlement before them.

Then followed a desperate battle to save what they could. Patricia Wright evacuated the young children in the car and sped north to find Fred Bullen and get help from neighbors, many of whom were far out in their fields. Before long a procession of rescue vehicles of all sorts was streaming down the road. Fred charged into the barnyard with the "cat", knocking down fences to give the animals and chickens a chance to

escape. Then he tried to bulldoze a fireguard in the encircling woods, but with flames leaping through the tree-tops, driven by the fire generated wind, it was hopeless. He was forced to retreat when the seat caught fire, and for one heart stopping instant almost lost the huge machine. The blade dug in and almost stalled the engine, but in a split second he was able to de-clutch in time for it to chug back to life again. He could not have started it again, because the small gasoline tank necessary for starting the big diesel engine was empty. He then dragged other equipment to safety.

A small party formed a bucket brigade from the dug-out to water down the houses, which were so hot that the water turned to steam. Leo Hamson jumped into the pond repeatedly to wet his clothes, which quickly dried in the intense heat and smoke. The women and the Bullen boys worked feverishly removing what they could from the houses and loading the truck. The petite Ruth Hamson single handedly moved massive furniture from her house to the street. Later, it took two men to put it back. Neighbors with their tractors towed equipment and disabled vehicles to safety. There was danger of smoke asphyxiation, and when it appeared that the battle was being lost, Fred Bullen took command and passed the word for everyone to meet at the road to be evacuated.

Ruth Hamson, who had refused earlier orders to leave, was still with Leo and Len Wright, who were frantically flinging water. In the smoke and confusion they missed the last warning, and after some time realized they were alone. Dropping their buckets, they headed for the road, crawling close to the ground to breathe and avoid the eye stinging smoke, and dragging with them a young calf they had rescued. As they passed the store near the road, it was starting to burn from flaming embers dropping from the sky. Hoping to save it, they fought it with water from a nearby excavation. They gave up when fuel drums stacked nearby started exploding.

To escape up the road into smoke free area, they would have to pass a thousand gallon fuel tank on wooden skids. Noticing that the skids were burning, and hoping to prevent an explosion, Leo dashed forward to unscrew the three big tank caps. Half-way there, the warning screams of his companions persuaded him to reverse direction, and he dived into the water filled excavation beside the others. At that instant there was a mighty blast that was heard for miles, and chunks of hot metal went whistling over their trench. It was like the war all over again. A great fireball and black smoke boiled

skyward, contrasting with the white smoke of the forest fire. Those watching anxiously up the road feared that the three stragglers were doomed.

Now that the danger of the tank was past, the trio crossed into the seeded field of Felix Desharnais still crawling and dragging the calf. Disoriented by the dense smoke, they followed the seed drill marks, remembering that they had noticed Felix seeding north and south. Eventually the smoke thinned, and the crowd of watchers spotted the three tattered and blackened scarecrows and their calf staggering out of the smoke. There was enormous relief to find everyone safe. The three badly shocked families were taken up the road, first to the Desharnais house, then to the home of Paul Gagnon. They were treated to a great outpouring of sympathy and kindness that would be long remembered. The time was then 4.30 p.m. It had taken just two and a half hours to turn a tranquil spring day into a nightmare. The exhausted and filthy survivors, nursing their smoke stung eyes, were convinced that all was lost. Leo Hamson became aware for the first time that only the tops of his army boots remained – the soles had been burned off. Years later all had their own personal memories of the disaster.

Then came unbelievable news. Neighbours reported they could glimpse buildings still standing in the thinning smoke. The men returned to find all eight houses unscathed in a vista of smouldering and blackened ruin. It was a miracle. But the other losses were very heavy, and there was no insurance. Some livestock had survived, many had perished. Gone were the barn, chicken house, granary full of just purchased registered seed, the store building, the big lighting plant, two new ice houses, and 55,000 feet of newly sawn lumber that had been carefully dry piled. Even the ashes were blown away. Much equipment was damaged or destroyed. It was learned later that the imbecile who started the fire many miles away in Whitemud Creek was brought into court. As fires were banned, he was fined \$30.00.

Over the years, the group had dwindled from eight families to three. After the fire, the three tried to carry on together for another three years before giving up. First the Hamsons, then the Wrights left. The Bullens were the last hold outs, trying the heavy equipment contracting business before leaving for good in 1956. The ex-members scattered to many points in Canada and the U.S.A. and all enjoyed successful careers in many fields. Their children grew up to excel in many different and interesting careers. It is regrettable

that space does not permit an account of their many accomplishments.

The only family to stay in the area were the Leo Hamsons, who lived 35 years in High Prairie. During the 21 years he was manager of the High Prairie Clinic he maintained contacts with many old friends of Little Smoky Farm Industries. Of the eight original veterans only three, Leo Hamson now of Edmonton, Edwin Hamson in Toronto, and Fred Bullen in Calgary, are known for certain to be still living as at March 1, 1987, but all of their wives have survived.

One by one, the deserted buildings of Little Smoky Farm Industries disappeared. Some were moved, and three are known to survive in distant locations. The elevation of the highway has made the area wet, and a new dug-out pond occupies the space where the little village once stood. Nothing remains to give mute testimony to the great human drama that once unfolded here, and their story fades into the pages of history.

LUMBER CAMPS



Mary E. Winnicky and Roger by "shingle mill", 1938.



Sam Lapensée operating his sawmill built by himself.



Alphonse Martel at lumber camp.



Raymond Benoit at Raoul Lambert's lumber camp.



Raoul Lambert's lumber camp at Whitemud Creek.



Edward Rickard, Roger Winnicky, ??, ??, Louis Moreau, Ben May.



Lumber camp.



Jos Gagnon's sawmill located in Whitemud with Antoine St-Martin as sawyer.



Raoul Lambert's lumber camp.

TRANSPORTATION



Omer Lambert's five mules.



Voiture Buick, 1928, avec laquelle Caux-Drouin ont fait le voyage en 1941.



Madeleine Drouin, Clarina Brulotte, Jeanne d'Arc Drouin.



Gustave Mencke.



Snowplane — R. Lechasseur, o.m.i. at St. Marcel mission.

DOMINION



LANDS

RECEIPT

Agency No.

Agency,

192.

I hereby Certify that I have received from

the sum of TEN dollars, being the fee for

Entry for

Quarter of Section 9

Township 76

Range West of Meridian, subject to the right of the Province to take for road purposes, without compensation prior to issue of patent such land as may be required not exceeding $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the total area (O. in C. 20th Nov., 1907), and that he is, in consequence of such entry and payment, vested with the rights conferred in such cases by the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act.

Agent.

Événements Happenings



Guy Baseball team at Smoky River Fair. R.1 Darcy Lamothe, Jean Fortier, John Tokarz, Emile Johnson, Philippe Gosselin. R.2 Gilles Lamarche, Jacques Noël, Albert Greschner, Ted Toker, François Boulet, Germain Bastien, Denis Aubin.

FOUR-MILE-LONG CAVE-IN BY LITTLE SMOKY RIVER

*Excerpts from The Edmonton Journal,
by Bill Prager
October 4, 1954*

In the last two or three weeks the land at the top of the gradually-sloping north bank of the Little Smoky has fallen about 60 feet, almost straight down along a stretch of ground about four miles long. The movement of the earth so far has been a strip more than a mile in width, where at one point it has started to block the course of the Little Smoky.

Indications are the movement of the earth will continue. It already has shifted into the river bed to cut the normally 70-foot wide channel down to from 12 to 15 feet.

Residents believe the heavy rains this year draining under ground to the river may have caused the landslide.



Slide.

The land in the area slopes gradually up from the river bank for more than a mile to the surface. There are a few flat areas of cultivated farm land along the slope but otherwise it is mostly scrub bush and pasture.

The most striking fall is the 14-acre cultivated farm field of Emile Rey, which is 11 miles south and two miles west of Falher, 279 miles north-west of Edmonton. The entire field has dropped almost straight down, leaving behind a smooth clay cliff about 60 feet high.

Cattle and horses are grazing on the field as well as over the rest of the subsiding land. The cliff, sloping only a fraction off the vertical, resembles a river cut bank.

BLAME UNDERGROUND

Part of a grain field owned by Gaston Mencke, adjoining the Rey land, has dropped away from the rest of the field and the fissures are spreading farther into his field.



Land slide.

Fissures could be seen developing in the area at least six years ago, according to Allan and Ken Merchant. Last year the land fell about four feet.

The big drop started about three weeks ago, Allan Merchant said: "A marker shoved into the ground one night showed it fell 18 inches by mid-morning". At another time farmers noted it slipped away three inches in two hours.

CAR STRANDED

Last week Mr. Rey hired two bulldozers to cut a new road to his house near the river to replace the former road which runs through the subsided area. The Rey house is clear of the subsiding land.

When his land slipped four feet last year Mr. Rey cut a grade in the old road. The grade he cut still is visible but from the grade it now drops almost straight down about 56 feet.

The first big drop this year came suddenly. Francis Chalifoux left his car in the area one morning while he and Mr. Rey used Mr. Rey's truck on another field. By the end of the working day Mr. Chalifoux's car was stranded on the falling land while the truck could only go to the top of the cliff.

WINCH UP CALF

For about two weeks, Mr. Rey clambered up and down the cliff on a 35-foot pole to get from his house to his truck. As the land continued dropping the pole became too short. The new road was completed about eight days ago.

A calf owned by Mr. Rey was lost in one of the numerous crevices which cut through the subsiding land. It was found by a dog which accidentally dropped into the 15-foot-deep crevice and the calf was winched out by a block and tackle.

The falling land has become an attraction for sightseers from the surrounding area.

THE GERMAN'S CABIN

by Noel Boivert

Gaston Mencke's grazing lease on the banks of the Little Smoky River, just a few miles west from where he resides, may not have much significance to most, except for a log cabin built by Omer Cloutier back in the early thirties and the scarred remains of a gravel pit. About two hundred yards north of Cloutier's home once stood a cabin, built in 1914, by two German citizens. How they got there or where they came from was never known. They had refused to go to war and fight against their own people, let alone their next-of-kin. So for the duration of the war, they remained hidden and unknown except by one family who lived in the area and kept the secret to themselves. The two trapped and lived off the land the best they could. The family sold their fur catch and bought food and clothing and delivered it to the hideout location.

When the war ended, the two individuals secretly left the river valley and were never heard from again. It was many years later that a moose hunter following the river by chance came upon the cabin. He spent the night there. Inside, on a wall log, he noticed some German writings consisting of dates and notes. From this time on the place was named "La Cabane des Allemands", or "The Germans' Cabin". I went to see the cabin in 1936 and remember the spruce trees growing from the sod roof. The logs used for the cabin had been cut upstream and floated down to the site. No stumps or missing trees were noticeable. It was still well camouflaged in the dark thick spruce on the banks of the river. The pioneers often spoke of the cabin and its two occupants and how they isolated themselves for so long without going insane. The bank of the river has since eroded and what remained of the hideout place has been washed away, and with it, the last bit of evidence of the two mysterious Germans.

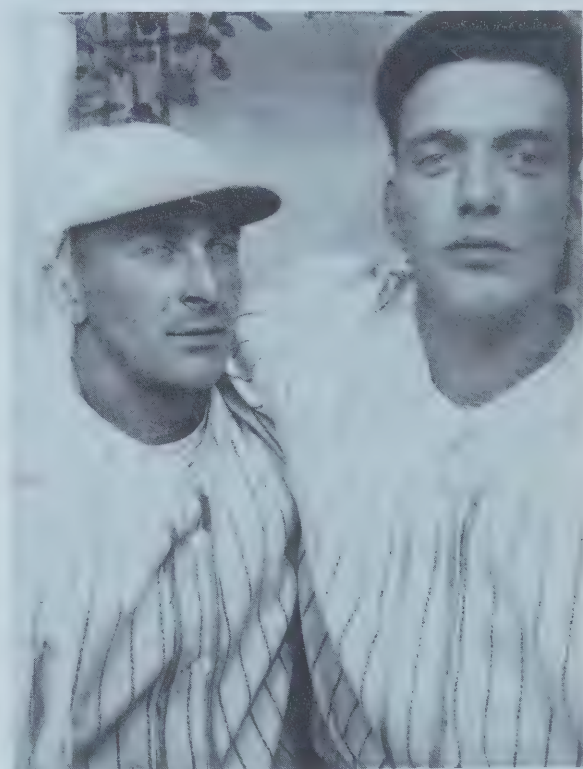
SPORTS



Jody Fulton riding Pam's Pennyworth at Olds College.



Langlois School skating rink. Front: Gabe Turcotte, Ronald Fortier, Claude Turcotte. Back extreme right: Remi Maisonneuve.



Paul Boisvert and Elie Verstraete.



Smoky River Ski Hill.



Ray Cote boys play hockey at home.



Raft Race, 1966. From L. to R.: Romeo Gervais, Gerry Paradis, Sam Lapensée, Richard Alexandre.

LA CHASSE ET LA PECHE — HUNTING AND FISHING



St. Andre's camp in Whitemud.



Marlene and Michelle Bourgeois, 1980.



Daniel Drouin and Leonard Dupuis.



Benoit Aubin and son Claude got their moose 3 miles from home.



Roland Bastien.



Peter Winnicky on his trap line.



Omer Boisvert, Flavius Plourde camped in early 1930 by ferry crossing.



Rose Starrs with her moose.



Jos Larocque got his deer.



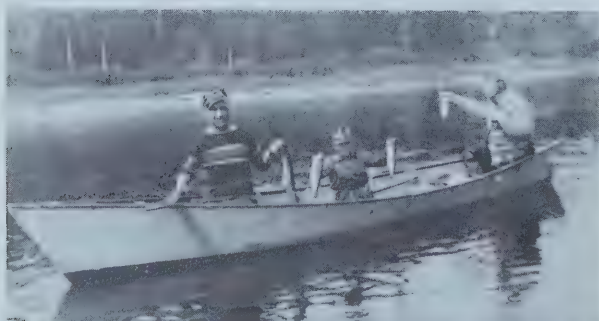
Tom Wells — teacher in Whitemud for 3 yrs.



Peter Winnicky with fish caught in Little Smoky.



Slim Cloutier's shack built in the early 1920's.



Phil Lapensée Sr., Maurice Lapensée and F. Plourde fishing on the Little Smoky (1940).



Bear killed 7 miles south-east of Guy by Leonard Dupuis (1953).

Anniversaires de mariage
Wedding Anniversaries

40

50



60

“40”



Aimé & Gilberte Lemay.



Rosaire & Gertrude Nairon.



Cécile & René Lambert.



Benoit & Cécile Aubin.



Paul & Lilian Maisonneuve.

“40”



Georges & Gertrude Bastien.



Omer & Thérèse Lambert.



Rita & Roland Bastien.



Gabriel & Edwidge Noël.



Eddy & Marie Gagné.



Amédée & Irène Fortier.



Delphis & Madeleine Brulotte.



Albert & Maria Tokarz.



Jos & Eva Johnson.



Raoul & Rose de Lima Lambert.



Rose & Mike Sniezek.



Andrew & Marya Dlugosz.



Maurice & Rose Anna Lambert.

“40”



Eugénie & Albert Dechief.



Hervé & Marie Anne Johnson.

“50”



Shirley & Alphonse Martel.



Alice & Léopold Beaudoin.

“50”



Rose & Joséphat Fortier.



Andrew & Efrosinya Zesko.



Rose & Walter Hébert.



Louis & Marie Ange Dechambre.



Frank & Amanda Brulotte.

“50”



Fernande & Odilon Fortier.



Léon & Léda Pelletier.



Félix & Annette Desharnais.



Yvonne & Wilfrid Bisson.



Albert & Rosella Doris.



Benoit & Rosalie Major.



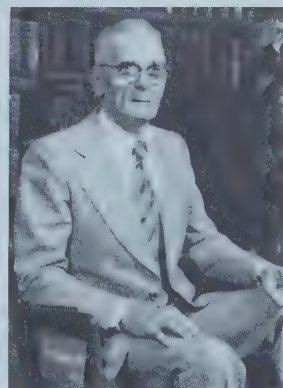
René & Euphémie Brin.



Angéline & Léopold Lafleur.



Rosario & Marie Anne Blais.



Eva & Jos Dancause.



Cécile & Jos Boisvert, daughter Doreen.



Rosanna, Rose & Willie & Paul Brulotte.



Omer & Laurette Boisvert.



Gustave & Louise Mencke.

“60”



Emile & Anna Johnson.



Aurèle & Elmire Lambert.

“65”



Emilia & Moïse Lafleur.



Mary and John Winnicky (61 years).



Médéric & Clara Nairon.



Della and Aurèle Benoit (68 years).



Canadian Cemetery, Adegem, Belgium.

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row.
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae

Veterans



Paul Emile Maisonneuve, Liliane Maisonneuve and Anatole Turcotte return to visit the Canadian cemetery at Bergen op Zoom.

WWI



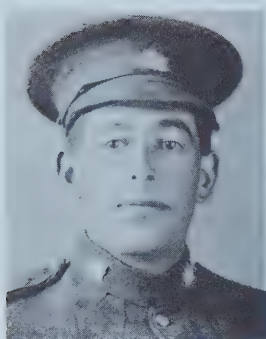
Elzéar Cloutier.



John Cooper.



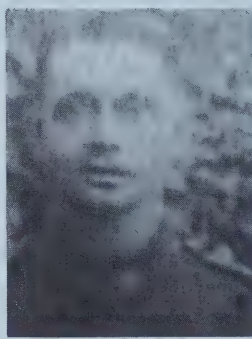
Jock Ford.



Sébastien Jasmin.



Gustave Mencke.



George Reade.



Mike Todor.

WWII



Benoit Aubin.



Armand Bellerive.



Adrien Boisvert.



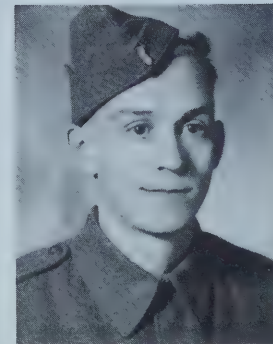
Gaston Boisvert.



Paul Boisvert.



Bernard Boulet.



Lucien Caux.



Larry & Aimé Charest



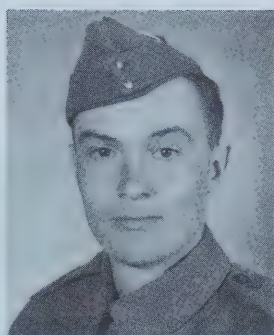
Roland Cloutier.



Floyd Dumont.



Alice Gardner.



Archie Gardner.



Fernand Gagnon.



Henri Johnson.



Jos Johnson.



Philippe Lapensée.



Soffanias Lindal.



Lilian Maisonneuve.



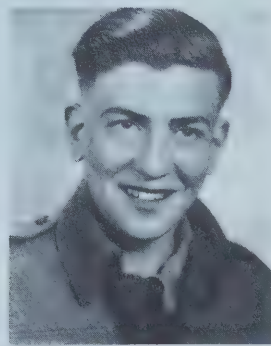
Paul Emile Maisonneuve.



Pete Michael.



Léo Morissette.



Clément Nairon.



Donald Reade.



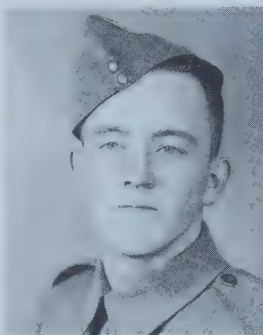
Gabriel & Anatole Turcotte.



Léonard Dupuis.



Moïse Dupuis.



Henri Brulotte.



Albert Doris.



Léo Hamson.



Eddy Gagné.



Remembrance Day at Langlois School. R.1 Paul E. Maisonneuve, Father B. Frigon, Anatole Turcotte. R.2 Two Reid Brothers and Benoit Aubin.

LIST OF VETERANS WITHOUT PHOTO

LISTE DES VETERANS DONT NOUS N'AVONS PAS DE PHOTOS.

GUERRE DE 1939-45: Harry Restall, Ernest Arndt, Sigurd Arndt, Edgar Besse, Ralph Boehn, Stan Boehn, Dave Champion, Lennard Côté, Louis Côté, Charles Gagnon, Walter MacFarlane, Joseph Marier, Robert McDonald, Daniel Nadeau, Doris Nadeau, Laurent Caux, Edwin Hamson, Fred Bullen, William Pacaud, Léon Wright, Roy Bray, Ron Grant, John Donnelly, John Hiscock, Brian Reade, Arnold Reid, Wilfrid Reid, Jean Sicard, Roy Turner. GUERRE DE 1914-17: Candide Beauchamp, Edwin Brennan, Pete Cirka, Emile Désilets, Edward Dupuis, Tom Killips, Roy Killips, Sam McBride, Hervé Pierre, Arthur St-Pierre, George Vowden, Harry Restall.

Biographies



Grandma Major reading a story to grandchildren Erica & Kyle Johnson.

ABRAMOVICH, DANIEL & ABRAMOVICH, MARY

by Pauline Abramovich

In 1930 Daniel and Mary Abramovich began a journey that would take them to a new country, many hardships, but also freedoms before unknown. Both born in Drobot, Poland, they had lived there until their move, although Daniel had travelled to the United States for a brief visit.

With their two small sons, Alex and John, aged five and two, they journeyed on the ship Megantic, stopping first in Quebec, and then proceeding to Swan River, Manitoba, which was to be a resting place for a number of months. Others from Poland had also emigrated to that area, and the many things they had in common resulted in friendships which would last for the rest of their lives. Word came from acquaintances who had journeyed further West to Alberta that land was plentiful there, so the Abramovich family also proceeded in that direction, where they settled on a homestead a few miles from Guy, Alberta. For Daniel, who had been a school teacher, this was a new and difficult life as he suffered from severe asthma. Gradually however, land was cleared, and a small home built, which was to be a permanent residence. Ten years after their arrival, a daughter, Pauline, was added to the family. Education was an enjoyable experience for the children in the area as a one room country school was built, and a dedicated teacher, Rita Benoit, took the teaching position there. Her enthusiasm and caring attitude will always be remembered, with many memories of wonderful Christmas concerts and various social

activities. Travelling to school in sleighs and cabooses, and the excitement and hazards of these overturned vehicles in snowbanks will also live on forever in our memories.

In the 1950's Rev. W. Lusch from Wyoming moved to the area, where he served as pastor of the Church of God of Prophecy for a number of years. He will long be remembered for his dedication and hard work, which resulted in a church building being constructed across the road from the Abramovich residence, but most of all he helped instill in the lives of those he served a firm faith in God that would see them through many experiences they would face throughout their lives.

Daniel, after a short illness, passed away in 1953. Mary continued to farm with the help of her children. Eventually she moved to Peace River in 1960, where she lived until her death in 1962. Alex chose to stay farming after leaving school, and later moved to Prince George, B.C., where he presently resides and works as a cat operator. John continued his schooling until he obtained a Ph.D. in Mathematics, during which time he married the former Jeanne Roy from Donnelly. Pauline, a medical secretary, after working in Peace River and Edmonton till 1968, moved to Ontario. Since her return in 1979 she has been working at the University Hospital in Edmonton.

The Abramovich family takes this opportunity to thank all their neighbors and friends in the Guy area for all their help and friendship when first arriving to this Country, and throughout the years that followed.

Daniel Abramovich: n. 1889 m. 1924 d. 1953

Mary Abramovich: n. 1897 d. 1962

CHILDREN:

1) Alex: n. 1924

2) John: n. 1928 m. 1950

Jeanne Roy:

3) Pauline: n. 1940

* * *

En 1930, Daniel et Mary sont venus de Pologne accompagnés de leurs deux enfants, Alex et John. Pour Daniel, qui avait été professeur, ce fut une vie nouvelle et difficile puisqu'il souffrait d'asthme. Après la mort de Daniel, Mary continua dans l'agriculture avec ses trois enfants. Alex prit la relève après avoir quitté l'école et ensuite déménagea à Prince George, C.B. John obtint un doctorat en mathématiques et épousa Jeanne Roy de Donnelly. Pauline, secrétaire médicale, travaille à l'hôpital de l'Université à Edmonton.



Daniel Abramovich, his wife Mary, sons Alex and John in 1939.

ALEXANDRE, DENIS

by Pauline Gervais

Denis was born May 6, 1952, the son of Joseph Alexandre and Marie Jeanne Belanger. He attended school in Falher. Presently he and Rene



René, Terry, Denis Alexandre.

are farming part of dad's old farm. Moreover the two brothers farm Donat Lacourse and Adrien Boisvert's old lands.

* * *

Denis fréquenta l'école de Falher. Présentement René et Denis cultivent une partie de la ferme de papa. En plus, ils cultivent les terres ayant appartenues à Donat Lacourse et Adrien Boisvert.

ALEXANDRE, EUGENE & (1M) TUDOR, HELEN (2M) MARCOUX, CECILE

by Pauline Gervais

Eugene Alexandre, born October 27, 1935 was the son of Joseph Alexandre and Marie Jeanne Belanger. He attended Ballater School #2 till it closed down in 1946. After another few years in Falher, Eugene completed his Agricultural Studies in Fairview College in 1954. He then operated the family farm with brother Richard. Eugene left the farm in 1977 to start a construction business (Trucking, Hauling and Digging) in McLennan. He was still in this business when he suddenly passed away in October, 1983. His first



Steve's graduation 1983.

marriage to Helen Tudor gave them a little girl, Louise, born June 1955.

His son, Steven, was born in March 1965 to Cecile Marcoux. Cecile is now living in Calgary with her son Claude. Cecile's other son, Raymond, lives in Slave Lake, AB.

Steven Alexandre began school in Guy but later went to school in Falher and McLennan. He graduated from G.P. Vanier, Donnelly. His further studies brought him to Grande Prairie where he is still residing.

Eugene: n. 27-10-1935; d. 10-1983

1m Helen Todor: n.02-11-1934

ENFANTS:

1. Louise

2m Cecile Marcoux

Claude Marcoux

Raymond Marcoux

2. Steven Alexandre: n. 03-1965

* * *

Eugène Alexandre fréquenta l'école de Ballater No 2 jusqu'à sa fermeture en 1946. Après quelques années à Falher, Eugène compléta ses études agricoles au Collège de Fairview en 1954. Par la suite il opéra la ferme familiale avec son frère Richard. Eugène quitta la ferme en 1977 pour commencer un commerce dans la construction à McLennan. Il s'occupait toujours de ce commerce quand il mourut soudainement en octobre 1983. Son premier mariage avec Helen Tudor lui donna une fille, Louise. Son fils, Stephen, est né de Cécile Marcoux. Cécile demeure à Calgary avec son fils Claude. Son autre garçon, Raymond, demeure à Slave Lake, AB.

Stephen Alexandre commença l'école à Guy et ensuite à Falher et McLennan. Il termina ses études à l'école Georges P. Vanier, Donnelly. Il poursuivit ses études à Grande Prairie où il demeure présentement.

ALEXANDRE, JOS & BELANGER, MARIE JEANNE, (2M) SASSEVILLE, THOMAS

by Pauline Gervais

Jos Alexandre was born on 25-09-1895 to Joseph Alexandre and Elizabeth Lizotte of St. Roch Des Aulnaies, Quebec. Being the third child of a family of ten made it impossible for him to realize his dream of farming.

He served in the World War of 1914. He then travelled west to Montana to work in the mines.

In 1922 after having already visited vast amounts of land available in Northern Alberta, and with the influence of two friends Arthur St. Pierre and Georges Maure, he filed on land SE 24-72-22 W5.



Edith Bélanger, Marie Jeanne and Jos Alexandre.

Being a veteran he more easily obtained land and government aid. Another plus was help from his mom. He settled down to develop an excellent productive farm. To this day the house he built is still on the farm.

In 1925 he married Marie Jeanne Belanger born 24-06-1909, daughter of Albert Belanger and Louise Charbonneau who had arrived in Girouxville from Montreal, Quebec in 1917.

Together they raised a family of twelve children and to date eight are still living. Mr. & Mrs. Jos Alexandre retired from the farm in 1946 when they moved to Falher. Pauline and Armand Gervais farmed their land till Eugene and Richard took over. With the help of Dad, they continued farming for many years. Eugene left the farm in 1977. Rene and Denis are still farming part of Dad's farm at the present time.

Travelling was difficult as there were more trails than roads. Even though Dad had a car, the heavy snow or muddy roads made it, at times impossible to travel. Much travelling was done with horse and buggy or caboose. I still remember going to midnight mass to return home in the small hours of the morning.



R.1 Thomas Sasseville, (2m) to Marie Jeanne Alexandre, Susan. R.2 Richard, Pauline, Solange, Therese. R.3 Eugene, Marguerite, Rene, Denis Alexandre.

I remember once Pauline, Terry, Marge and I walking to Edgehill Hall picking up Germaine and Elsa Debaere and their Mom plus a few friends along the way. We enjoyed the eight to nine mile walk and thought nothing of it.

There was also no power in the Edgehill dance hall and as the dancing would sometimes last till morning, we would run out of light as the lights were gas lamps. Sometimes one would turn on his car lights to shine through the windows till the lamp was refuelled and lit again.

It was also cold going to the outside bathrooms.

Times were difficult as we did not have today's facilities to enjoy. Houses were heated with wood. We had to haul snow or ice for our water. But thinking back, there were also good times.



Pauline Alexandre Gervais & her three boys: Gerry, Julien and Gilbert born at Alexandre's farm.

Our school was Ballater No. 2. At one time there were seven Alexandres attending classes from grades one to nine. I remember being caretaker of the school. That meant sweeping, dusting, cleaning the blackboards, packing in snow or ice for water and wood for fuel, for \$2.00 a month. I thought I was the lucky one.

Mrs. Fred Caron was our last teacher.

Ten children were born at home, two at the McLennan Hospital.

Jos Alexandre: n. 25-09-1895

m. 14-11-1925; d. 24-12-1962

Marie-Jeanne Bélanger: n. 24-06-1909; (2M)

Thomas Sasseville, 1979; d. 03-02-1982

CHILDREN:

1. Robert: n.01-01-1927

d. 13-02-1928

2. Pauline: n. 07-06-1928

m. 14-11-1945

Armand Gervais: n.17-10-1917

- Pauline and Armand live in McLennan, AB.
- a) Gerard: n. 12-12-1946; m. 27-11-1971
Lorene Hick: n. 20-02-1948
i) Jan: n. 17-07-1973
ii) Teneka: n. 08-12-1975
 - b) Julien: n. 29-01-1947; m. 09-10-1970
Madeleine Bastien: n. 23-07-1951
They have three children: David, Steven and Gail.
 - c) Gilbert: n. 20-06-1948
m. 04-11-1972
Cathy Turner: n. 29-12-1953
i) Tammy: n. 12-12-1975
ii) Carrie: n. 21-01-1977
 - d) Linda: n. 04-08-1954
m. 17-06-1972
Jacques Plante: n. 17-07-1951
i) Nicole: n. 17-02-1974
ii) Monique: n. 28-05-1975
iii) Jacqueline: n. 12-12-1979
 - e) Ida: n. 21-06-1956
m. 21-12-1982
Grege Welch: n. 02-05-1956
They have three sons: Alec, Trevor and Peter.
 - f) Luc: n. 16-09-1957
m. 11-05-1985
Arly McGuire: n. 20-04-1957
i) Paul: n. 08-12-1984
3. Theresa: n. 19-07-1929
m. 18-12-1948
Elmer Golem: n. -02-1928
Theresa has no children and lives in Abbotsford, B.C.
 4. Margaret: n. 31-03-1931
m. 25-11-1948
Andre Bremont: n. 23-03-1927
a) Michel: n. 04-03-1952
Lorraine Bedard: n. 06-01-1954
They have two sons and one daughter.
 - b) Marc: n. 25-05-1959
 - c) Roch: n. 19-09-1960
m. 05-11-1983
Carol Charest: n. 21-01-1961
Margaret and Andre live on a farm near Falher, Alberta.
 5. Edgar: n. 13-11-1932
d. 13-06-1942
 6. Solange: n. 29-04-1934
m. 11-08-1954
Ray Bouchard
a) Sandra: n. 02-05-1955
b) Ronald: n. -10-1956
c) Timmy: n. -05-1959
Sally spent most of her years away but now has returned to Falher.
 7. Eugene: n. 27-10-1935
 8. Richard: n. 31-07-1938
1m. Marlene Lindstrom: n. 17-03-1942
a) Dwayne: n. 06-10-1958
b) Todd: n. 20-12-1959
c) Bruce: n. 12-03-1961
d) David: n. 15-06-1962
Second mariage to Betty Frazer.
Richard and Betty live in Falher where they work for the M.D. #130.
 9. Raymond: n. 02-11-1939
d. 13-06-1942
 10. Susan: n. 21-07-1941
m. 01-08-1964
Lee Younger: n. 11-1941
a) Jackie: n. 12-12-1965
b) Jeffry: n. 16-12-1966
Susan now lives in Calgary. The next two children were born in the McLennan Hospital.
 11. Rene: n. 04-10-1945
m. 29-05-1968
Vivian Rey: n. 13-09-1951
a) Brigitte: n. 21-07-1973
Rene lives on a farm purchased from Donat Lacourse. (NE 21-76-21).
 12. Denis: n. 06-05-1952
Denis and Rene still farm part of the family farm.
- * * *
- Etant le troisième enfant d'une famille de dix, ce fut difficile pour Jos de réaliser son rêve de devenir fermier. Après avoir servi à la guerre de 1914, il voyagea jusqu'au Montana pour y travailler dans les mines.*
- En 1922, après avoir visité la vaste étendue de terrain disponible dans le nord de l'Alberta et sous l'influence de deux amis Arthur St-Pierre et Georges Maure, il prit un "home-stead".*
- Puisqu'il était vétérinaire, il obtint plus facilement du terrain et de l'aide du gouvernement; un autre atout fut l'aide de sa mère. Il s'appliqua à développer une excellente ferme productive. A ce jour la maison qu'il bâtit est encore sur la ferme.*
- A partir de 1925, avec sa femme Marie-Jeanne, il éleva une famille de douze enfants dont huit sont encore vivants. Ils se retirèrent à Falher en 1946.*
- Pauline et Armand Gervais ont continué à cultiver jusqu'à ce qu'Eugène et Richard prennent la relève. Avec l'aide de papa ils ont continué à cultiver pour plusieurs années. René et Denis cultivent encore une partie de la ferme de papa.*

Voyager s'avérait difficile puisqu'il y avait plus de sentiers que de routes. Même si papa avait une auto, la neige épaisse ou la boue empêchait souvent le déplacement. Beaucoup de voyages se faisaient à cheval avec voiture ou "caboose". Je me souviens encore allant à la messe de minuit et revenant aux petites heures du matin.

Notre école se nommait Ballater no 2. A un moment donné il y avait sept Alexandre d'inscrit dans les classes de la première à la neuvième année. Je me souviens d'avoir été concierge de l'école; il s'agissait de balayer, épousseter, nettoyer les tableaux, entrer la neige ou la glace pour l'eau à boire et le bois pour chauffer et le tout pour 2,00 \$ par mois. Je croyais être la chanceuse! Mme Fred Caron fut notre dernière institutrice.

ALEXANDRE, RENE

by Pauline Gervais

Rene Alexandre was born Octobre 4, 1945. He is the 11th child of Joseph and Marie Jeanne Belanger. He did his schooling in Falher. After having travelled and experienced different jobs, Rene decided to farm with brother Denis. Presently that is what he is doing. He married Vivian Rey, May 29, 1968 and has a daughter.

* * *

René Alexandre fréquenta l'école de Falher. Après avoir voyagé et travaillé à différents emplois, il décida de cultiver avec son frère, Denis. Présentement, c'est ce qu'il fait. Il épousa Vivian Rey le 29 mai 1968 et ils ont une fille.

ANCTIL, RENE HESSE, JEANETTE

by Rene Anctil

My parents, Joseph Emile Anctil and Marie Elise Pedneault moved from Cabano, Québec to Dreau in 1931 then settled in Girouxville.

I was born and raised on a farm, four miles north and one mile east of Girouxville. My home was always comfortable but certainly not one to boast of any of the present day modern conveniences. My parents did not believe in spoiling kids. My father was strict, firm and consistent...if you had it coming you got it!! My older brothers insist that by the time we were born our parents had mellowed a great deal, that indeed they spoiled the three younger ones...according to them we got away with a whole lot more without suffering the dire consequences they claim to have suffered.

I attended Gougeon school then stayed at the convent of Girouxville until the end of grade ten. I was one of the first group of boys to board at the College Notre Dame de la Paix in Falher and completed my schooling at Routhier School.

I completed a one-year program at the Faculty of Education of the U of A. I taught grade four for one year at Jean-Cote School then grade eight at Girouxville School. Having difficulties with this last year of teaching and wondering if I was in the right line of work I took a year off to try other kinds of work. After working as an unskilled labourer in construction and as a paymaster for a construction company in Hinton, I realized that teaching was not so bad after all. I returned to University with the intent of resuming my training for a career as a teacher. After completing two years, I was back in the classroom at Kinuso School for two years. Father Forget of Falher suggested that I consider the principalship at Langlois School, a position that was open for September 1961. I was appointed to Langlois as principal and I remained there until June 1963.

After teaching in Edmonton and Legal, I obtained my Bachelor of Education degree in 1965. (See Langlois School)

I began to think of settling down or "establishing roots", as I was often reminded by older and wiser colleagues...the time had come to think of marriage before I became too old and set in my ways. Lo and behold someone else was having the same thoughts. Consequently a relationship that had started quite innocently became increasingly serious and Jeanette and I ended at the altar of the little church of Busby to be declared man and wife on July 2nd, 1965.

From September 1965 until February 1972 I taught for the Edmonton Separate School Board as a High School teacher, Assistant Principal and Principal.

In February 1972 I accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent with the High Prairie School Division with special responsibilities to the bilingual schools of the west end of the division. Two and a half years later I assumed the position of Superintendent.

On August 31, 1981, I took one year of University studies to complete a Master's in Administration. I then took a one year position as coordinator of Education North Project. After teaching for another year, I was appointed Coordinator of the Commercial Studies Division in Grouard, the position I presently hold.

René Anctil; n.29-06-1934 m.02-07-1965

Jeanette Hesse; n.20-11-1942

CHILDREN:

1. Carole; n.15-06-1966

2. Gregory; n.30-11-1967

* * *

Mes parents, Joseph Emile Anctil et Marie Elise Pedneault quittèrent Cabano, Québec en 1931, pour vivre à Dréau, AB, puis à Girouxville, AB.

Je suis né et j'ai grandi à la ferme située à quatre milles au nord et un mille à l'est de Girouxville.

J'ai commencé mes études à l'école Gougeon, à Girouxville jusqu'à la fin de ma dixième année. Je fus l'un des premiers élèves pensionnaires au Collège Notre Dame de la Paix à Falher, puis je finis mon secondaire à l'école Routhier, aussi à Falher.

J'étudiai un an à la faculté d'Education à l'Université de l'Alberta. Par la suite j'enseignai la quatrième année pendant un an à l'école de Jean-Côté, puis la huitième année à l'école de Girouxville. Ayant trouvé l'enseignement difficile je travaillai un an dans un chantier de construction à Hinton où j'ai constaté que l'enseignement n'était pas si mal après tout. Je retournai donc à l'Université poursuivre mes études. Par après j'enseignai à Kinuso pendant deux ans, deux ans à Guy comme directeur, à Edmonton et à Legal. J'obtins mon Bachelier en Education en 1965.

Je songeai alors à fonder un foyer; j'épousai Jeannette Hesse dans la petite église de Busby, AB., le 2 juillet 1965.

Je continuai l'enseignement dans les écoles séparées d'Edmonton et en février 1972 je pris la position de surintendant-adjoint à la division scolaire de High Prairie, étant responsable spécifiquement aux écoles bilingues situées à l'ouest de High Prairie. Deux ans et demi plus tard j'assumai la fonction de surintendant jusqu'en 1981 où j'étudiai un an afin d'obtenir ma maîtrise en Administration. Puis je travaillai pour un an à titre de coordonnateur dans un projet pour Education North. Un an plus tard je fus nommé coordonnateur à la section des études commerciales à Grouard, AB., où je travaille jusqu'à ce jour.

ANDRIOWSKI, NICK

by Jos Chaibos

As I recall, Mr. N. Andriowski arrived in our district in the spring of 1938. However records indicate, that Mr. Andriowski filed on SE¼

28-75-21 in 1928. On his homestead he built a log shack, cleared some land and made residence, as to prove his homestead. Afterwards he returned to Two Hills, Alberta where his family home was.

He returned to our area in 1938, rebuilt a better house and opened more land on his homestead. Mr. Andriowski completed his High School in Alberta. He was always willing, to offer his time, assisting people in writing letters in English, translating and advising. He was instrumental, in forming the Edgehill school district, helping in fund raising and in grant requests to build the school house.

He donated the NE corner of SE¼ 28-75-21-5th where the Edgehill school was built. In 1942 he sold his farm and (to my recollection) moved to Penticton, B.C. where he established a chicken farm; due to lengthy illness he passed away in the mid 1940's.

* * *

Je me souviens bien que M. Nick Andriowski arrivait dans notre région au printemps 1938. Cependant les registres indiquent qu'il avait pris un "homestead" en 1928. Il y avait construit une cabane en bois rond, en plus de défricher son "homestead". Par la suite il retourna à Two Hills, Alberta où sa famille demeurait.

Il revint dans la région en 1938, construisit une plus grande maison, et défricha plus de terre sur son "homestead".

En 1942, ils vendit sa ferme, et il s'en alla vivre à Penticton en C.B. où il fit l'élevage de volailles. Après une longue maladie, il mourut durant les années quarante.

ANUSZEWSKI, ZDISLAW (CECIL) & GENEREAUX, MILDRED

by Mildred

Cecil was born in Poland, October 26, 1934. He remembers at the age of 8 years old, the war broke out in Poland. He was separated from his family and taken away to a game reserve to do whatever work an 8 year old boy could do. After the war was over his mother found him and together they both defected to Germany. They became refugees and Cecil was then able to attend school. After finishing high school, he enrolled in a University in Germany, taking Agriculture.

Zdislaw (Cecil) Anuszewski and his mother Josefa Anuszewski came to Canada together November 1951. They were sponsored by Frank Krzeminski of Guy, Alberta.

They travelled across the Atlantic Ocean on a boat called "Ms Anna Salén". The trip took more than two weeks and they were both sea sick when they got into an Atlantic storm. They were both glad when the boat landed in Halifax, N.S. The rest of the journey to Donnelly, Alberta was by train which took another ten days, then finally by truck to the Frank Krzeminski farm at Guy, AB.



Josefa & son Cecil reunited in Polland after the war.

After spending the coldest winter in all his life, not to talk about the deepest snow he ever saw, finally winter turned to spring and Cecil helped to build a new house for the Krzeminski family. The following year Cecil went out working returning to help with harvesting. The year 1957 was a turning point in his life as he decided to rent the Frank Krzeminski farm. He also took a homestead lease, S½-6-75-21-W5 in the Whitemud Creek district in 1957.

By now Zdislaw (Cecil) was well into farming and managed to buy a quarter of land near the Krzeminski land in 1960. He moved to the Whitemud Creek district to clear some more land with his brother Lucien. He lived in a little homestead shack and worked out each winter.

He met Mildred (Millie) Genereaux, who was born July 8, 1935 at Davis, Saskatchewan. They were married April 13, 1962 in Edmonton, Alberta.

After a brief honeymoon they moved to the homestead in the Whitemud Creek district. The first thing done right after seeding the crops, was to put an addition to the homestead shack.

The following spring Millie raised chickens, made a garden and planted flowers around the

homestead shack. Cecil sold his quarter of land at Guy, and used the money to open more land on the homestead. Most of the land was broken with a small breaking plow pulled by a small International tractor, and later disked down with a ten foot disc. Roots were picked by hand, because we couldn't afford a root rake.



Cecil & Millie on vacation.

Also in 1968 grain farming wasn't very promising, with only a 3 bushel quota for wheat for the year. Cecil decided the next best thing to do would be to raise livestock. So he went into the Feed Lot business in hogs. That business took care of the living expenses as well as of the payments until grain prices and quotas picked up again.

In 1972 Cecil was stricken with an illness which left him paralyzed for 3 months. Millie said it was very hard that year for her with chores to do alone, small children to raise and still manage to take care of Cecil, but she managed to get by with some hired help. Cecil recalls that he really didn't feel good for 3 years after that.

Gradually, things got better in farming and Cecil and Millie were even able to take a vacation here and there. They also took time out to enjoy fishing trips with friends and Cecil was even able to buy his dream car in 1983. In 1980 the Anuszkewskis built a new home.

Cecil Anuszewski; n.26-10-1934; m.13-04-1962
Mildred Genereaux; n.08-07-1935

CHILDREN:

1. Barry; n.26-07-1964; farming in Whitemud, AB.
2. Rose Mary; n.12-06-1968; U of A in Agriculture.

* * *

Cecil est né en Pologne le 26 octobre 1934. A l'âge de huit ans au début de la deuxième guerre mondiale, il fut enlevé de sa famille pour travailler sur une réserve de la faune. Sa mère l'a retrouvé après la guerre et ils se sont réfugiés en Allemagne. Alors Cecil a fini ses études et a pris un cours en agriculture à l'université.

Il est venu au Canada avec sa mère lorsqu'elle vint rejoindre Frank Krzeminski à Guy. En 1957 il prit un "homestead" S $\frac{1}{2}$ -6-75-21-W5 à Whitemud Creek et en 1959 il acheta le terrain NW-17-76-20-W5. Il passait l'été dans son "shack" sur la terre et allait travailler chaque hiver. Il épousa Mildred (Millie) Genereaux de Davis, Saskatachewan le 13 avril 1962. Il a bâti une rallonge à son "shack" et a vendu son terrain NW-17-76-20-W5 afin d'ouvrir son autre terre. En 1968, il a commencé l'élevage des cochons pendant que le prix du grain était bas.

En 1972, à la suite d'une maladie, il fut paralysé pendant trois mois et Millie a dû s'occuper de la besogne de la ferme en même temps que de jeunes enfants et de son mari. Après cette épreuve, les choses se sont améliorées. Ils ont bâti une nouvelle maison en 1980 et Cecil a eu l'automobile de ses rêves en 1983.

ANUSZEWSKI, LUCIEN & HANKINS, DEBORA

by Mildred Anuszewski

Lucien was born in Poland in 1939. He was sponsored to come to Canada by Frank and



Lucien Anuszewski.

Josefa Krzeminski in 1956. He worked at various construction jobs and took a homestead in the Whitemud Creek district W $\frac{1}{2}$ -36-74-22-W5. He preferred carpenter work to farming and so in 1968 he decided to sell his land to his brother, Cecil. He then moved to Peace River where he now works for A.G.T. as a finishing carpenter. Lucien Anuszewski; n.10-09-1939 m. 22-10-1971

Debora Hankins; They have four children; Robert, Jason, Shawn and Lee Anne

* * *

Il est arrivé au Canada en 1956 parrainé, par sa mère Josefa et son beau-père Frank Krzeminski. Il a pris un "homestead" W $\frac{1}{2}$ -36-74-22-W5 à Whitemud Creek. Il préféra être ouvrier et vendit sa terre en 1968 à son frère, Cecil. Il déménagea à Peace River où il est ouvrier pour A.G.T.

ARSENEAULT, AUGUSTE & KURJATA, BARBARA

by Barbara Arseneault

Auguste Arseneault is one of thirteen children of Léopold Arseneault and Jeanne Proulx. They arrived in the Peace River area from Quebec in June 1949, settling at Marie Reine. Leo Arseneault was a logger and the family moved often. It was during one of these moves that Auguste met and married Barbara Kurjata of Chetwynd, B.C. in 1965.

The Arseneault families had moved to High Level, Alberta and this is where we, Gus and Barb started our married life.

In the fall of 1967 we learned that Gerard and Emilia Bastien were selling a farm in the Guy area, Pt. N.E. 25-74- 21-W5th, where they grew potatoes. We came to see the place and fell in love with it immediately.

We moved to Guy in April 1968, with our infant daughter, Terry. Farming, especially growing potatoes was a new experience for both of us. Neither of us had any farm background to speak of. Local rumor had it that we "wouldn't last more than three years at the most." As we watched our first crop emerge from the ground we both got our first look at what a real potato plant looked like. We assumed "that" had to be potatoes because they were all in rows. Our ignorance of potato growing didn't concern us, we believed hard work and determination would pay off...and it did. We grew potatoes commercially for sixteen years. The last year, our potatoes passed federal inspection for foundation grade seed. In recent years, Auguste has "semi-



R.1 August & Barbara. R.2 Rémi, Léo, Thérèse.

retired" from farming and has been in the trucking business, hauling gravel and logs. Our children attended school in Guy until it closed and continued their education in Falher.

Auguste Arseneault: n. 11-10-1943 m. 21-08-1965

Barbara Kurjata: n. 12-06-1947

CHILDREN:

- 1) Thérèse Marie: n. 07-01-1968
- 2) Léopold Joseph: n. 03-05-1970
- 3) Rémi Auguste: n. 09-03-1977

* * *

La famille Arseneault est déménagée à High Level et c'est là qu'Auguste et moi avons commencé notre vie conjugale. Nous sommes arrivés à Guy en avril 1968, avec notre bébé Terry après avoir acheté la ferme de Gérard et Emilia Bastien. Nous avons cultivé la pomme de terre (patates) pendant seize ans. A présent, Auguste est à demi-retiré et fait du camionnage charroyant du gravier et du bois. Nos enfants ont fréquenté l'école de Guy et de Falher.

AUBIN, BENOIT & HOUDE, CECILE

par Cécile Houde Aubin

C'est grand-mère, Mme Pierre Aubin, sage-femme de l'époque qui assiste à domicile à la naissance de Benoit, deuxième enfant de Frank Aubin et Elise Legault le 11 avril 1918 (pionniers de 1913 et 1912 à Falher).

Benoit, son frère Albéric et ses cinq soeurs grandissent sur la ferme à quatre milles au sud de Falher. Ils connaissent ce qu'est le défrichement, le manque d'eau potable et les maringouins; par contre ils savent aussi ce qu'est l'entraide et la joie de demeurer près des grands-parents Aubin et Legault qui gâtent les petits.

A cause de la distance de l'école de Falher, Benoit ne commence son éducation formelle qu'à l'âge de huit ans. Il doit demeurer au presbytère qui sert de dortoir pour les jeunes garçons car le pensionnat n'est pas fini et n'accueille que les filles. Ses années scolaires sont heureuses car Benoit aime la musique, le chant, le théâtre. A ce temps, les religieuses de Ste-Croix présentent souvent des concerts et Benoit obtient souvent des rôles importants dans des pièces et des solos de chants. Beaucoup plus tard il égayera ses petits enfants par ces mêmes chansons.



Norman, Benoit & Denis. Papa s'amuse avec ses gamins.

Les professeurs de l'école l'encouragent à poursuivre ses études au Collège St. Jean à Edmonton mais il préfère aider son père et apprendre d'expérience le métier de cultivateur. Le père de Benoit avait pris un deuxième "homestead" à Guy - SE 1/4-14-75-21-w5 en 1930. Quand le temps et la finance le permettent ils vont tous les deux bâtir une cabane de bois rond, défricher et faire la chasse; les chevreuils

et les originaux passent fréquemment tout près du "shack". Aimant la chasse tous les deux, c'est un véritable paradis. Benoit a beaucoup aimé ces jours passés en compagnie de son père.

Plus tard Benoit fait un stage chez les Frères Oblats à Grouard. Mais c'est la deuxième guerre mondiale et puisque Benoit n'est pas employé à la ferme à ce temps, il doit faire du service militaire. Il fait une courte période d'entraînement à Grande Prairie et est ensuite stationné dans l'artillerie soit à Tofino Island, Lulu Island, ou Victoria, C.B. Les soldats sont pour la plupart du temps abrités dans des tentes; c'est humide et froid. Benoit s'ennuie et n'aime pas ce genre de vie. Il a hâte de revenir, à sa ferme...peut-être parce qu'il avait rencontré l'année précédente, Cécile, alors qu'elle était étudiante à l'Ecole Normale. Après avoir obtenu son congé définitif de l'armée au printemps 1944, le rêve de mariage se réalise le 5 août, de la même année en l'église de Donnelly.

Cécile Houde est la quatrième enfant d'Alfred Houde et d'Antoinette Gingras de Donnelly. Elle est née à Cluny, AB. le 21 juillet 1921. Sept ans plus tard la famille déménage à Donnelly à cause de sécheresse au sud de la province. C'est à Donnelly que Cécile fait ses études. En 1940-41 elle s'inscrit à l'Ecole Normale, Faculté d'Education à Edmonton. Sa première position l'année suivante est à l'école Benoit dans la paroisse de Guy. Elle y demeure trois ans. Puisque l'école Benoit est une petite bâtisse en bois rond et que quarante-deux élèves s'inscrivent cet automne-là, c'est impossible d'accomoder tous ces étudiants; la Division Scolaire de McLennan fait des arrangements pour que la moitié des élèves fréquente la classe l'avant-midi et l'autre moitié l'après-midi, jusqu'à ce

qu'une école nouvelle soit construite l'année suivante.

Pendant la première année d'enseignement, je demeure tout près de l'école dans une toute petite habitation (8' X 12') transportée de chez mes parents. Ma mère, femme très ingénieuse, transforme l'intérieur tout comme une roulotte moderne – un divan qui devient lit, des sièges avec pentures qui servent d'armoires, une garde-robe dans un coin et une armoire pour la cuisine dans un autre coin – un tout petit poêle, (trouvé je ne sais plus où) et me voilà installée tout près de mon travail sans avoir à pensionner ailleurs et à marcher loin. Ma soeur, Rachelle me prête main forte avec la cuisine, les corrections des devoirs de classe et l'écriture des leçons au tableau noir. La vie sociale dans le milieu est des plus active. Plusieurs jeunes de notre âge demeurent dans le voisinage et les activités ne manquent pas: des parties de ballon panier, des joutes de balles, des danses, du patinage sur les étangs en hiver et de la nage dans le crique en été. Et pendant ce temps, les lettres voyagent de Guy à l'Île de Vancouver.

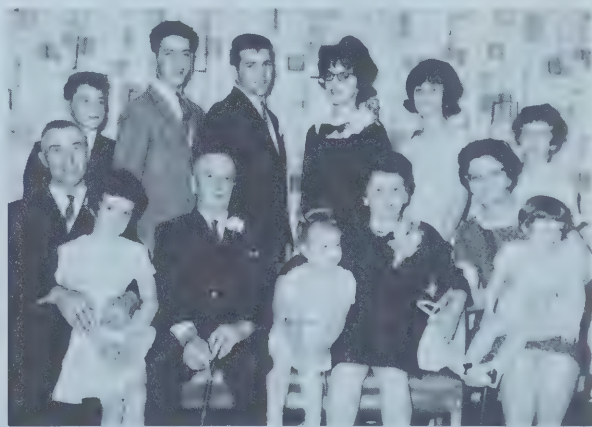
Un jour allant à Peace River avec M. Aurèle Benoit, mon voisin, il me dit; "Pourquoi est-ce que tu n'appliques pas pour un "homestead"?" Il me conduit au bureau des terres et me voilà propriétaire du SW-1/4-12-75-21-W5!

Après notre mariage, Benoit obtient du travail à Ft. St. John C.B. (United States Engineer Department) branche de l'armée américaine qui construit la route de l'Alaska.

Notre premier chez-nous consiste en un appartement de deux pièces où tout est fourni: couvertures, vaisselles, et même vêtements d'hiver. Moi-même j'obtiens la position d'institutrice pour les enfants des employés qui sont



Jour de l'an chez Denis Aubin. R.1 Marie Johnson, Ginette Noël, Karen Aubin. R.2 Annette Gamache, Albéric Aubin, Gabrielle Johnson, Benoit Aubin, Antoinette Martineau.



R.1 Benoit, Micheline, M. Houde, Raymonde, Mme. Houde Cécile et Rachel. R.2 Claude, Jules, Denis, Louise, Juliette, Angèle.

pour la plupart américains. C'est une situation idéale pour le début d'un mariage – sécurité financière, peu de dépenses et en surplus, mes parents vivent dans ce même camp.

Après cette bonne année, nous croyons pouvoir affronter la vie de colons sur la terre à Guy, que Benoit avait acheté de son père en 1941 pour la somme de \$500.00. Au printemps 1945, nous entassons nos biens matériels dans un camion et c'est le déménagement de Ft. St. John à Guy. C'est un peu compliqué de trouver assez de place dans le petit "shack" de 12' X 12'....il n'y a que quelques pieds de libre au milieu de la place...ça requiert moins d'énergie, qu'on se dit.

Et le métier de défricheur de terrain et celui d'élever une famille commencent simultanément. Heureusement que Benoit est habile à réparer et à construire. Déjà en 1947 la construction d'une maison de 22' X 26' commence. Les quarante acres en culture sont maintenant cent acres.

La famille aussi augmente...dix enfants beaux et en bonne santé, sauf l'aîné, Norman, qui est atteint du cancer à l'âge de sept ans, et nous quitte un an et demi plus tard. Notre con-

solation est nos autres enfants, nos parents, nos amis. Nous sommes bien entourés!

Et pendant ces années difficiles, Benoit ajoute aux revenus de la ferme avec ses travaux de construction dont la construction des bancs de notre église avec M. Jos Turcotte et la finition du sous-sol de l'église en salle paroissiale.

Moi-même j'enseigne pendant trente-trois ans dans les écoles des environs: Benoit, White-land, River Valley, Langlois, et Donnelly.

Nos enfants complètent tous leur éducation secondaire soit à Guy, Donnelly, Falher, ou au Collège St. Jean à Edmonton. Pendant seize ans, les graduations et les noces de ces neuf amours d'enfants se suivent – le mariage de Louise en 1967 et de la dernière, Rachel, en 1983 – période si occupée que le temps passe et on ne se rend pas compte que l'on vieillit.

La vie communautaire de la paroisse nous accapare aussi. Benoit est fidèle au chœur de chant pendant quarante années. Il est aussi à tour de rôle marguillier, commissaire d'école, et directeur de la Caisse Populaire. Les activités scolaires, les bazars, les pique-niques paroissiaux, le hockey l'hiver, le camping avec la



R.1 Jean & Rachel Dubrule, Kent & Micheline Kennedy, Benoit & Cécile Aubin, Juliette et Jacques Noël, Cécile et Jules Aubin.
R.2 Claude et Colette Aubin, André et Raymonde Lussier, Albert et Louise Greschner, Louise et Denis Aubin, Angèle et Louis Ouellette.

famille, et les excursions de pêche nous tiennent très occupés.

Enfin, en 1982, nous jugeons que c'est le temps de prendre notre retraite. Je quitte l'enseignement et Benoit vend ses terrains à ses deux garçons, Denis et Jules, gardant seulement la terre de la maison où on s'établit dans une nouvelle demeure. Le temps est venu de voyager un peu: Arizona, Hawaïi, et surtout en Colombie où demeurent mes frères et soeurs. Les enfants organisent une belle fête pour notre quarantième anniversaire de mariage et c'est déjà la fin des bons jours.

La même année, en septembre, 1984, Benoit apprend qu'il est atteint de cancer. On prie beaucoup et on espère une guérison mais Dieu en a décidé autrement. Notre pasteur, le Rev. Père R. Bélanger et nos amis ont encore une fois témoigné d'innombrables marques d'amitié. Toujours résigné à la volonté de Dieu, Benoit accepte ses souffrances et garde jusqu'à la fin le beau sourire qui le caractérise. Son Dieu le réclame le 5 décembre 1985.

Benoit m'a sans doute transmis son amour de ce petit coin de terre car je continue d'y vivre seule aimant la tranquillité et les visites à tour de rôle de mes neuf enfants et des vingt-trois petits enfants.

Benoit Aubin; n.11-04-1918 m.05-08-1944 d.05-12-1985

Cécile Houde; n.21-07-1921

ENFANTS:

1. Norman; n.29-06-1945 d.29-03-1954
2. Denis; n.09-12-1946 m.17-05-1969
Louise Martineau; n.24-08-1949 (voir Aubin, Denis)
3. Louise; n.17-01-1948 m.01-12-1967
Albert Greschner; n.05-10-1945
 - a) Monica; n.03-09-1968
 - b) Clint; n.04-01-1970
4. Jules; n.10-03-1950 m.16-06-1973
Cécile St. Amand; n.05-03-1953. (voir Aubin, Jules)
5. Juliette; n.10-03-1950 m.16-05-1970
Jacques Noël; n.08-03-1947. (voir Noël, Jacques)
6. Claude; n.10-10-1952 m.09-06-1972
Colette Gaucher; 17-06-1953
 - a) Normand n.25-05-1974
 - b) Joanne; n.07-04-1976
 - c) Leanne; n.20-10-1979
 - d) Lynn; n.18-02-1982
7. Angele; n.26-02-1956 m.27-03-1981
Louis Ouellette; n.09-12-1953
 - a) Dominique; n.18-03-1983
 - b) Josée; n.06-01-1986

8. Micheline; n.08-01-1959 m.27-12-1975

1.m. David Loiseau

a) Marc; n.19-07-1976

b) Alain; n.13-12-1978

- 2.m. Kent Kennedy; n.29-04-1959 m.28-01-1983

a) Joël; n.14-06-1986

9. Raymonde; n.31-01-1962 m.28-06-1980

André Lussier; n.07-02-1956

a) Nathalie; n.19-08-1986

10. Rachel; n.11-08-1964 m.09-07-1983

Jean Dubrûle; n.27-04-1963

a) Christian; n.08-12-1985.

b) Luc Bernard; n.05-10-1987

* * *

Grandmother, Mrs. Pierre Aubin, renowned midwife of the Falher area, assisted April 11, 1918 at the home delivery of Benoit, son of François and Elise Legault, (1913-1912 pioneers in Falher).

In 1930, Frank Aubin acquired a second homestead SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -14-75-21-W5 in the Guy area. Whenever possible, Benoit and his father would travel there to hunt, clear some land, and eventually build a small comfortable log shack, (which became our first home). It was a most happy time for both of them.

In 1940, Benoit was enrolled for military training in Grande Prairie; then as gunner was stationed on the west coast. Army life was not his preference. When he obtained his discharge from the army in the spring of 1944, he was most happy to return to his fiancée and civilian life.

Cecile, the fourth child of Alfred Houde and Antoinette Gingras, was born in Cluny, AB. July 21, 1921. Seven years later the family moved north to Donnelly, AB., because of the severe drought in the southern part of Alberta. So it was that Cecile grew up on a farm one and a half mile south west of Donnelly, and attended school there.

It was while attending Normal School in Edmonton in 1940-41 that Cecile and Benoit met. "My first teaching position was at Benoit School, where I taught for three years (1941-44)." When Benoit obtained his discharge, plans were made to be married on August 5th of the same year.

Our first home was in Ft. St. John, B.C. where Benoit obtained work for the United States Engineering Department which was constructing the Alaska Highway at the time.

Fortunately I was hired also as one of the teachers in a two-room school in the U.S.E.D. camp where mostly american families lived and worked.

Two salaries for a whole year and a half! We figured we were rich enough to venture into farming! We anxiously moved to the little shack on Frank Aubin's second homestead which Benoit had bought from his father in 1941 for \$500.00. We also acquired NE $\frac{1}{4}$ -2-75-21-W5. As a veteran Benoit was entitled to a grant of \$2,300.00 which he used to buy some farm equipment and to open land. He hired the Little Smoky Farm Industries Ltd. equipment and operator at \$16.00 per hour for 27 hours and forty-five minutes to brush-cut seventy acres of thick forest in the winter of 1946-47. Gradually more land was bought and put into production and a house was built. Community activities kept us very, very busy. During these years we raised our nine delightful children. During sixteen years graduations and weddings alternated! Time just flew!

Realizing we were not getting any younger, we sold the land, except the home quarter with the new house, to the two oldest boys. I retired from teaching after thirty-two years and we made plans for many years of leisurely living. During two years we travelled, camped, played cards with friends to shockingly learn that Benoit was suffering from terminal cancer. Hopes of a cure, prayers were of no avail; his Master claimed him December 5th, 1985.

I continue to live in my farm home keeping extremely busy and (to soothe the loss) co-ordinating the Guy, Ballater, Whitemud Book.

AUBIN, DENIS ROBERT & MARTINEAU, LOUISE M.J.

by Denis & Louise

I, Denis, second son of Benoit Aubin and Cecile Houde, was born December 9, 1946 at McLennan Hospital. I attended Guy school for grade 1 and 2 and resided at the convent during the week for those two years. I took my grade three at River Valley then back to Guy for grades 4 to 11. I then graduated from Routhier school in Falher in 1964. My fondest memories of those years is when my father drove the neighboring children to River Valley in his 1951 Fargo pick-up and also all the hockey that was played on the dugouts on Sunday afternoons which involved most of the Guy area fellows. With good times there is also sad times, one of which was the passing away of my older, eight year old brother, Normand, in 1954. I was six years old at the time.

After graduation I took agricultural mechanics at SAIT. During the summer months I got a job at Cassiar, B.C. at the asbestos mine and later worked on road construction as a service man.



Denis and Louise Aubin's farmstead four miles south of Guy.

At about that time the provincial Department of Lands and Forests had a draw for some land across the Smoky River. My sister Louise and I both entered our names, Louise's name was drawn. The four quarters were SE 13-74-21, W $\frac{1}{2}$ 18-74-21 and NE 18-74-20. After the improvements were made the titles were then transferred to my name. By this time I was working for Al Meneice in High Prairie and took 3rd year Heavy Duty Mechanic. From there I went to work for Western Geophysical and finished my apprenticeship. In 1968 I met Louise Martineau, daughter of Maurice Martineau and Antoinette Maure, who hailed from Lac Magloire, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Falher. At the time Louise was working in a medical clinic in Edmonton. I decided then to quit Western Geophysical to be closer to Edmonton. I then took on a job at R. Angus. In February 1969 I made a move to B.C. to settle down to a better paying job as by now I was thinking of marriage. Our wedding took place in Falher on May 17, 1969. Our first home was a 12 foot by 52 foot Glendale mobile home in Mackenzie, B.C. There I worked for Mackenzie Redi-Mix and for Finlay Forest Industries on their float camp repairing boats on Lake Williston.

In 1971 I took up my "chosen career" of farming seriously. We purchased NW 12-75-21, Guy Johnson's home quarter. It had a beautiful yard site with a comfortable small house with all the facilities along Highway No. 2, four miles south of Guy. By this time we had two young daughters, Michelle and Tammie. In 1973 I purchased the adjoining quarter SW 12-75-21 which belonged to my mother. In the next two years I cleared 525 acres. It was hard work and long hours but like my father and my grandfather who have done it before me, it's given me a sense of belonging to the land and a great satisfaction with my accomplishments.



R.1: Michelle, Tammy-Lyne, Karen, Renette. R.2: Denis and Louise Aubin, and family pet A.D.

To supplement my farming income I have worked out at various jobs in the winters such as contract maintenance for Gagnon Oilfield Services in Swan Hills at the Esso Resources gas plants. My wife and I both have held responsible positions in several organizations and service boards in our community. We also enjoy participating in our daughters' varied activities.

Denis Aubin: n. 09-12-1946 m. 17-05-1969

Louise Martineau: n. 24-08-1949

CHILDREN:

1) Michelle: n. 20-08-1970

2) Tammie: n. 18-12-1971

3) Karen: n. 05-07-1973

4) Renette: n. 23-09-1976

* * *

J'ai fréquenté les écoles de Guy, River Valley et j'ai terminé mes études à l'école de Falher. Par la suite je pris un cours de mécanicien agricole à S.A.I.T. Pendant les vacances, j'ai travaillé à la mine d'amiante à Cassiar, C.B. et plus tard comme homme de service pour la voirie. Ma soeur, Louise, obtint quatre quarts du Ministère des Terres et Forêts dont les titres furent transférés à mon nom. Tout en travaillant pour Al Meneice à High Prairie j'ai pris une troisième année comme mécanicien de machinerie lourde. De là j'ai poursuivi mon apprentissage avec Western Geophysical. J'ai épousé Louise Martineau et en 1971 j'ai commencé sérieusement à cultiver, achetant un quart de Guy Johnson et un de ma mère.

AUBIN, JULES & ST. AMAND, CECILE

by Jules & Cécile

On March 10, 1950, a set of twins was born in Guy to Benoit Aubin and Cecile Houde. Well, maybe I should have said Juliette first as she claims that she's the oldest. As a child, mom tells me that of the two I was the active one. At the tender age of two I fell head first in a water barrel, full of crushed ice. Only two little white booties were sticking out. I also loved wandering away to follow my dad to the field because he'd sometimes let me ride on the farm machinery. One day I learned my lesson! I believe I was five years old at the time and decided to ride on the back of the binder. I fell on the canvas on hitting a bump. By the time I was noticed and the tractor stopped my legs were up the elevator canvas. One inch more, I was told, and my legs would have been cut off. "That cured me".

I took all of my schooling in Guy, except grade twelve. The first two years we stayed at the convent in Guy. We brought our food from home for the week and only returned home on week-ends as there were no school buses and very poor trails. I completed grade twelve at



R.1 Chantal, Marc, Daniel, Robert. R.2 Cécile and Jules Aubin

College St. Jean in Edmonton after which I took Civil Technology at NAIT in the fall of 1969 to 1971. After graduating, I got a job through Gilmore Surveys doing consulting for Imperial Oil in Inuvik, N.W.T. My job was preparing leases for oil rigs. This meant the blasting of mud sumps, setting up approximately six hundred pilings to sit the rig on since the heat transfer created by the rig through the summer months, would melt the permafrost. We also did some engineering test projects. One of these was building a twelve hundred foot asphalt road at Atkinson Point, north of Tuktoyaktuk. Another project was the building of a Freon pad to find out if it would be feasible to place a rig on such a pad rather than pilings. One summer we hauled drift-wood fifty miles with a helicopter to make a pad to store a rig off the barge. I also assisted in building the first man-made island in the Beaufort Sea. Whenever Imperial Oil would not need me I'd work for Gilmore Surveying in the Edmonton area. At the time I was renting a house in Edmonton along with five other co-workers. It was known as the party house.

In 1972, mom was taking University courses at the Faculty of Education, U of A and she introduced me to Cecile St. Amand who was taking an R.N. course through Edmonton General Hospital. I knew Cecile vaguely as she used to attend a lower grade at Langlois school. We started going out together and whenever I'd be working in Inuvik we corresponded by letters, sometimes five letters per week: "It was love".

In 1972 we became engaged. This was quite a story. One Friday night Cecile and I drove down from Edmonton to Guy. Cecile's parents lived on a farm west of Guy. On Saturday I was to surprise Cecile with the ring. When I went to get Cecile I realized I had forgotten the rings at dad's. Together we drove back to get them. Dad opened the door and said, "How come you're back so soon?" I told him that I had fallen in the mud and got my pants dirty. As I only had one set of clean clothes because the rest were in Edmonton, dad offered me his pants which I had to wear with suspenders, and this time I picked up the engagement rings. We were engaged that night. But I was always teased that I was not man enough since I got engaged in my dad's pants.

My interest was always to return to farm life. Cecile was also very interested in starting a farm of our own. In 1972 I bought land through Energy and Natural Resources. At that time the Government had initiated a new program to help beginner farmers. Older farmers who wanted to retire would sell their land to the Government. Interested young farmers would apply for this



Drillind and freezing in pilings in permafrost to support oil rig during summer by Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T.

land and a committee decided who would benefit the most from this land. Luckily for me I was chosen. So Mr. Gerard Duguay's half section N¹/₂ 36-74-21-W5m became my property.

In 1973 we were married and made our home on the farm in the existing house. On our wedding day it was raining so hard that Mr. St. Amand pulled his car with the tractor up to the main road. They all got dressed in the basement of the church. After the wedding I walked out of the Guy church with Cecile in my arms and wearing knee high rubber boots.

I worked one more winter in Inuvik and Cecile worked at McLennan Hospital as an R.N. In 1976, I bought the NE-2-75- 21-W5M from dad. The next year I opened up another quarter NW 35-74-21-W5M and did a lot of rock picking. In 1980 I bought SE 10-75-21-W5M from dad.

Cecile is now working for the Peace River Health Unit #21 out of Falher and I'm busy farming five quarters and renting three quarters. God blessed us with four healthy youngsters. I always find time to play hockey and spend time doing community work.

I really enjoy living in Guy as I find it to be a very close community, filled with good friends and neighbors who are always prepared to help.

Jules Aubin: n.10-03-1950

m. 16-06-1973

Cecile St.Amand: n.05-05-1953

CHILDREN:

1- Daniel: n.12-10-1977

2- Robert: n.24-02-1980

3- Chantal: n.09-03-1982

4- Marc: n.15-07-1984

* * *

Selon ma mère, dès ma tendre enfance je fus

plus actif que ma jumelle, Juliette. A l'âge de deux ans je plongeai tête première dans un baril de glace concassées. J'aimais aussi suivre mon père pour pouvoir monter sur les machines agricoles.

A l'âge de cinq ans je me promenais à l'arrière de la lieuse quand je tombai sur le canevas. Je faillis être happé par le canevas de l'éleveur. un pouce de plus et mes jambes auraient été coupées.

A l'exception de la douzième année, je fréquentai l'école de Guy. J'ai complété ma douzième année au Collège ST-Jean d'Edmonton, après quoi je pris un cours de technologie civile à N.A.I.T. à l'automne 1969 jusqu'à 1971.

Après avoir terminé mes études j'eus un emploi à travers Gilmore Surveys faisant de la consultation pour Imperial Oil à Inuvik, T.N.O. Mon travail consistait à la préparation du terrain en location pour les puits de forage. J'ai travaillé pour construire un chemin asphalté de 1200 pieds à Atkinson Point au nord de Tuktoyaktuk. J'ai aussi participé à la construction de la première île de main d'homme dans la mer de Beaufort. Quand Imperial Oil n'avait pas besoin de moi je retournais travailler pour Gilmore Surveys.

En 1972, ma mère prenait des cours d'université à la faculté d'éducation et elle me présentait Cécile St-Amand qui était étudiante infirmière à l'hôpital Général d'Edmonton.

En 1972, nous nous fiançons. Mon intérêt fut toujours de retourner à la ferme. Cécile était aussi intéressé à partir une ferme bien à nous. Cette même année j'ai acheté du terrain à travers Energy and Natural Resources. Ainsi j'achetai la demi-section de M. Gérard Duguay.

En 1973 nous nous sommes mariés et avons établi notre chez-nous dans la maison déjà existante. La journée des noces il pleuvait tellement que M. St-Amand dut tirer son auto avec un tracteur et je sortis de l'église chaussé de botte de caoutchouc avec Cécile dans mes bras.

J'ai travaillé un autre biver à Inuvik et Cécile a travaillé comme infirmière à l'hôpital de McLennan. En 1976, j'achetai un quart de mon père. L'année suivante j'ouvris un autre quart et ramassai beaucoup de roches. En 1980 j'achetai un autre quart de mon père.

Cécile travaille pour l'unité sanitaire #21 de Peace River à Falher et je suis occupé à cultiver mes cinq quarts et trois autres quarts sont loués. Dieu nous a bény à travers quatre jeunes bien en santé. Je trouve le temps de jouer au hockey et de travailler pour la communauté.

Je jouis vraiment de vivre à Guy parce que

j'y trouve une communauté très proche, composée de bons amis et voisins qui sont toujours prêts à aider.

AUBIN, MARCEL & VERRET, JEANNE

par Marcel

Marcel est né à Falher le 6 mai 1932, fils d'Oliva et Gracia Morin. Jeanne est née à Québec le 4 octobre 1932, fille d'Albert Verret et de Marguerite Jobin. Ayant été élevé sur la ferme à Falher, Marcel achète le terrain de Monsieur Maurice Beauchamps, à six milles au nord de Guy en 1961. Marcel et Jeanne déménagent à ce nouvel emplacement et y demeurent pendant trois ans. Durant ces trois années, ils deviennent paroissiens de Guy. Pendant ce séjour à Guy, Marcel eut le bonheur de participer à la chorale de l'église. Il participa aussi dans une pièce intitulée "J'ai du sang sur les mains". Dans ce spectacle il se joignait à Benoit Aubin, Auxiliatrice Lessard, Mme Raoul Lambert, Lucienne Lambert (Pitre) et Lucien Aubin. Cette pièce de théâtre sous la direction de Soeur Joseph de la Paix eut un grand succès.

Nous et nos trois enfants, gardons de notre séjour à Guy un des plus beaux souvenir. Même si la vie était difficile sur une ferme, ce fut une époque inoubliable. Tous les paroissiens de Guy étaient tellement chaleureux, sympathiques et toujours prêts à aider, ce que nous trouvons très rare dans les grandes villes. Nous demeurons maintenant à Edmonton.

Marcel Aubin: n. 06-05-1932 m. 19-06-1951

Jeanne Verret: n. 04-10-1932

ENFANTS:

1- Diane: n. 10-05-1952 m. 19-06-1971

Claude Labrie

Ils ont trois enfants: Serge, Michel et Rachelle. Ils demeurent à Spruce Grove, Alberta

2- Daniel: n. 23-11-1954 m. 20-05-1978

Joanne Smears

Ils ont deux enfants: Camille et Matthew. Ils demeurent à Edmonton.

3- Donald: n. 27-06-1957 m. 11-08-1979

Heather McDonald

Ils ont deux enfants: Céleste et Sarah Jean. Ils demeurent à Edmonton

4- Hélène: n. 29-04-1965 Elle demeure avec ses parents

* * *

Having been raised on a farm in Falher, Marcel bought land from Mr. Maurice Beauchamp six miles north of Guy in 1961. Marcel and Jeanne moved to this new location to reside for three

years during which they became parishioners of Guy. During this stay Marcel had the joy of participating in the church choir. He also took part in a French play directed by Sister Joseph de la Paix with Benoit Aubin, Auxiliatrice Lessard, Mrs. Raoul Lambert, Lucienne Lambert (Pitre) and Lucien Aubin.

We and our three children keep a fond memory of our stay in Guy. Even if life was difficult it was an unforgettable period.

All the parishioners were very warm, sympathetic always ready to help, what one seldom finds in big cities. We now live in Edmonton.

AUGER, NAPOLEON & WILFRED

by Rodrick (Bud) Caron

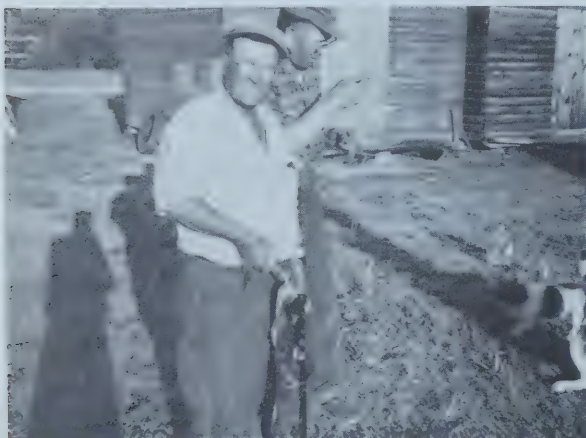
Napoleon and Wilfred Auger were the sons of Alfred Auger and Delvina Larose. They were born in Sherbrooke Quebec.

Wilfred, born in October 1893 was the eldest of three brothers. The second brother, Henry, visited numerous times but never left the original home in Sherbrooke where he raised his family.

Napoleon, born January 18, 1906 enjoyed the city life for twenty two years. After working in the Dominion Textile cotton factory, he became a baker for five years.

Wilfred served in World War I, from 1914 to 1916. He was wounded in action, acquired shrapnel wounds in a bombing attack, twenty four pieces to be recorded, some of which he carried with him till death. After healing his wounds he got a job in an iron foundry. The government saw fit to give Wilfred a disability pension of 11,25 \$ a month for life.

In April 1928 Wilfred came out west and filed on a homestead sixteen miles south of Falher, NW 22-75-21-W5, close enough to the Smoky



Napoleon Auger & John Winnicky coming back from a fishing trip.

River to fish and hunt as Wilfred and Napoleon enjoyed the outdoors tremendously. After spending the first summer getting organized, Wilfred sent for brother Napoleon who arrived on October 15, 1928. They were both beginner homesteaders with no previous farming experience. After they had bought their first Ford truck, their weekly outing was to go to town Saturday afternoon. They would take in the afternoon movie, have supper at a restaurant and return home with a good supply of reading material, mostly comic books. The comic books were never discarded; they were kept for the neighbor's kids to read at will when they visited.

Wilfred and Napoleon never missed attending the local dances at the country school or at the Edgheill Community Hall because they enjoyed exchanging conversation with all the neighbors. Wilfred's hobby would be to play the spoons at all dances.

After a lengthy illness, Wilfred died in the hospital in Edmonton on November 16, 1959 and was buried in the Veterans's cemetery in Edmonton.

Napoleon remained farming the land until he sold in 1974. He moved to the Villa Beausejour in Falher until 1983. Then he decided to return to Sherbrooke and Bromptonville, Québec, where most of his family resides, to spend the rest of his life.

Wilfred Auger: n. -10-1893

d. 16-11-1959

Napoleon Auger: n. 18-01-1906

* * *

Napoléon et Wilfred sont nés à Sherbrooke, Québec. Wilfred était l'aîné de trois frères. Henri, le deuxième visita ses frères plusieurs fois mais ne quitta jamais Sherbrooke où il éleva sa famille.

Napoléon jouit de la vie en ville pendant vingt-deux ans. Après avoir travaillé à l'usine de coton Dominion Textile, il devint boulanger pour cinq ans.

Wilfred servit pendant la guerre de 1914 à 1916. Il fut blessé en action, acquit des éclats d'obus dans un bombardement, vingt-quatre morceaux dont quelques uns restèrent avec lui jusqu'à sa mort. Une fois ses blessures guéries il obtint un emploi à une fonderie d'acier. Le gouvernement crut à propos de lui offrir une pension d'invalidité de 11,25 \$ par mois à vie.

En avril 1928 Wilfred vint dans l'ouest et prit un "homestead" à seize milles au sud de Falher assez près de la Smoky pour pêcher et chasser puisque Wilfred et Napoléon jouissaient beau-

coup de la nature. Après un premier été à s'organiser, Wilfred fit venir son frère Napoléon qui arriva le 15 octobre 1928. Ils étaient deux débutants en culture. Après avoir acheté leur premier camion Ford, leur sortie hebdomadaire consistait à se rendre au village le samedi après-midi. Ils allaient au cinéma dans l'après-midi, soupaient au restaurant et retournaient à la maison avec une pile de bandes dessinées. Ces derniers n'étaient jamais jetés; ils servaient pour les enfants du voisins.

Wilfred et Napoléon ne manquaient jamais les danses locales à l'école ou à la salle communautaire de Edgehill car ils aimaient jaser avec tous les voisins. Wilfred jouait de la cuillère à toutes les danses.

Après une longue maladie, Wilfred mourut à l'hôpital à Edmonton et fut inhumé au cimetière des vétérans à Edmonton.

Napoléon continua à cultiver jusqu'à ce qu'il vende en 1974. Il déménagea à la Villa Beauséjour à Falher jusqu'en 1983. Ensuite il décida de retourner à Sherbrooke et Bromptonville, Québec, où la plupart de sa famille réside, pour y rester le reste de ses jours.

BACHAND, EMILE & AUBIN, CECILE

par Cécile Bachand

Cécile, fille de Jos Isidore Aubin et de Lucienne Laflamme est née à Falher, le 22 novembre 1931. Ses premiers souvenirs de Guy sont à l'âge de cinq ans parce que son père avait à Guy trois quarts de terre – W¹/₂-25-75-21-W5 et N¹/₄-24-75-21-W5. Cécile se rapelle du trajet de Falher à Guy tous les printemps. Il fallait aller faire la résidence et les améliorations demandées par la loi sur l'obtention de "homesteads". Le voyage à travers le grand bois semblait bien long pour la fillette. A cause de son âge cela lui semblait plutôt comme du camping, probablement à cause de la maisonnette bâtie de logs équerries. Cette habitation bâtie il y a cinquante ans fut déménagée chez Henri Johnson et leur a servi de première résidence. Les terrains furent vendus à M. Donat Gagnon pour la somme de \$1800.00 en 1942.

Les années passent et Cécile, unit sa destinée à celle de Emile Bachand, fils de Joseph Bachand et Alice Létourneau de Légal. Emile ayant toujours rêvé de devenir cultivateur, prend un "homestead" – W¹/₂-24-74-22-W5 en 1953. La première année il défriche vingt acres. En 1975 il achète W¹/₂-19-74-21-W5 où ils demeurent présentement.

Emile étant habile menuisier construit sa maison moderne en 1975 et le couple déménage à Guy. Cette année, en 1987, Emile et son fils



Shack bâti par Jos Aubin, père de Cécile Bachand, par la suite première résidence d'André et Thérèse Gagnon ainsi que d'Henri et Gabrielle Johnson.

Gérald ont construit une grande boutique sur la ferme où ils bâtissent des armoires de cuisine; cette association se nomme: Emerald Wood-Works. Ils font aussi de la finition de maison, surtout dans la région de High Prairie, AB.

En 1982 Cécile et sa belle-soeur, Priscille Bachand ont commencé un commerce de vente de tissus et de couture à Girouxville. En novembre 1986 Cécile a ouvert une seconde boutique "Pat-ce's" à High Prairie.

Depuis nombre d'années, Cécile fait partie du comité régional A.L.P.E.C. (Animation Liturgique par l'Expression Corporelle). Elle dirige le chœur de chant de la paroisse de Falher et elle prête main forte au chant liturgique des messes de mariages et de funérailles à travers la région.

Emile Bachand; n.19-04-1928 m.29-09-1952

Cécile Aubin; n.22-11-1931

ENFANTS:

1. Jo-Anne; n.22-09-1953 m.06-07-1974

Fleuri Perron. Ils ont deux filles; Amy et Lee-Anne.



Michel, Cécile, Emile, Joanne, Gérald Bachand.

2. *Michel*; n.28-06-1955
3. *Gérald*; n.24-12-1957

* * *

Cécile, daughter of Jos Isidore Aubin and Lucienne Laflamme was born in Falher on November 22, 1931. From the time she was five years old, she remembers that every spring, her family moved to the homesteads in Guy to do residence duties and improvements to the land.

The log building they called home for the summer is still standing on what was once Henri Johnson's land. Cecile married Emile Bachand, son of Joseph Bachand and Alice Létourneau from Legal. Emile filed on W¹/₂-24-74-22-W5th in 1953 where he broke twenty acres the first year. In 1975 he bought W¹/₂-19-74-21-W5th where they now reside in a home built by Emile. This year, 1987, Emile and his son, Gerald, also built a large shop on the farm where they manufacture kitchen cabinets under the name "Emerald Wood-Works". They also do home finishing.

Cecile has opened a fabric shop in High Prairie called "Pat-ce's".

Cecile is very involved in the music ministry throughout the region. She is a key figure in the A.L.P.E.C. movement, directing church choirs for masses, marriages and funerals.

BASTIEN, ARTHUR & NAPIER, PATRICIA (ANN)

by Ann Bastien

Arthur Gerald Bastien was born on March 10, 1950. He is the fourth child of thirteen children. His parents are George and Gertrude Bastien. Art was born in the McLennan Hospital.

Arthur married Patricia Ann Napier better known as Ann. Ann was born on January 13, 1954. She is the sixth child of eleven children. Her parents are Fred and Nellie Napier of McLennan. Ann was also born in the McLennan Hospital.

When we were married, we lived in New Fish Creek. Art had land out there with his brother Germain. We then moved to his father's farm for awhile until we could find an apartment in McLennan as Art was then starting to work for the N.A.R. which has now become C.N. Art worked in the shop when the train engines would come in, he would clean them up and get them ready to go out again. We lived in the apartment near the hospital for a few months; we moved back to Art's parents' farm, for a short while. After all our moving with two small children we decided to buy a trailer. We lived in McLennan

for a year then moved to Donnelly. By this time I was getting tired of moving around. Art said "Just one more move". That move was to this beautiful eighty acres we now have. But I moved once more but not too far this time. We moved from our trailer to a big house, that we bought from Mr. Sig Arndt, in Whitemud. That is my last move, I hope.



Arthur & Ann Bastien and children: Renee, Raymond and Jason.

With all our moving around, I forgot to say that, Art had quit the N.A.R. and bought a big truck. We were still in McLennan, when he started to haul gravel. He also hauled logs during the winter. Two years ago he quit hauling gravel and logs and starting hauling crude oil for Merlin Transport from Edmonton. He likes it a lot. As for me, I am known as Ann's Day Care, and sometimes coffee shop. I have a knack for babysitting the neighbors' children. Sometimes I have ten to twelve little ones around me. As for the coffee shop, the coffee pot is always on. My yard is always full of big trucks or small children, sometimes both.

All I can say about the Guy area is that I was raised in McLennan right in town and after moving to the area, I sure don't miss town living. We have been here for seven years now and don't plan on moving around, anymore. We love it here and enjoy the neighbors and activities that

go on around us. I'm proud today that I'm from the hamlet of Guy.

Arthur Bastien: n.10-05-50

m.20-03-76

Ann Napier:n.13-01-54

CHILDREN:

1. Jason Edward n.12-12-74
Grade 7 in G.P.Vanier School
2. Rennee Gertrude n.04-10-76
Grade 5 in G.P.Vanier School
3. Raymond Marcel n.06-03-79
Grade 2 in G.P.Vanier School

* * *

Après s'être mariés, nous avons vécu à New Fish Creek. Arthur avait du terrain là avec son frère Germain. Nous sommes déménagés à la ferme de son père en attendant d'avoir un appartement à McLennan puisqu'Arthur travaillait maintenant pour N.A.R. devenu depuis le C.N. Il travaillait dans l'entrepôt, nettoyant les engins quand ils arrivaient et les préparant pour un nouveau départ. Nous avons vécu dans les appartement près de l'hôpital pour quelques mois et nous sommes retournés à la ferme. Après tous ces déménagement nous avons acheté une maison mobile. Nous avons vécu à McLennan et ensuite à Donnelly pour ensuite nous installer sur les quatre-vingts acres que nous possédons. De la maison mobile nous avons déménagé dans une grande maison achetée de M. Sig Arndt, de Whitemud.

Arthur s'acheta un camion et commença à charroyer du gravier et du bois durant l'hiver. Depuis deux ans il charroye de l'huile pour Merlin Transport d'Edmonton. Il aime ce travail. Pour ma part je garde les enfants des voisins. Depuis sept ans nous aimons vivre à Guy. Nous jouissons de nos voisins et des activités qui se passent autour de nous.

BASTIEN, GEORGES & BENOIT, GERTRUDE

par Gertrude et Georges

Georges Bastien est né le 16 décembre, 1911 à St-Anne des Plaines, Québec, enfant de Joseph Louis Bastien et Bernadette Gauthier. Il avait 2 soeurs et 7 frères. En 1930 il arrivait à Guy à l'âge de 18 ans. Il prit un terrain au sud de Guy, avec son frère Roland. Quand ils ont acheté deux haches, il leur manquait 10 sous pour les payer! C'était dans les années dures. Ils ont ouvert leur terrain tout à la main car ils n'avaient pas de machines pour leur aider. Pendant ces années le grain se vendait 8 sous du



Georges et Gertrude Bastien.

boisseau et ça coûtait 4 sous pour le battre et un autre 4 sous pour le charroyer à Donnelly. L'hiver il travaillait au chantier. En 1946 Georges achète son premier tracteur, un W6 International.

Georges a reconstruit Gertrude Benoit en 1944 à Guy où ses parents, Aurèle Benoit et Della Pelletier avaient le magasin général et le bureau de poste. Gertrude est née le 15 janvier 1922 à Vegreville, AB. Elle résidait à Guy depuis 1929. Elle avait 2 soeurs et 3 frères.

Le 18 avril 1945 Georges épousa Gertrude. La bénédiction nuptiale leur fut donnée par le Rev. Père Ubald Robert o.m.i. à Guy. Leur messe fut célébrée à 10 heures de l'avant-midi, suivie par un dîner et souper donné par les parents de



Marcel, Bernadette, Germain, Arthur, Madeleine et Denise Bastien

l'épouse. La danse a eu lieu à l'école Whiteland. Après le mariage ils ont demeuré sur la ferme de Georges qui était à un demi-mille de son frère Roland.

Ils restaient dans une petite maison de 12 par 18 pieds. En 1949 après 3 enfants ils ont décidé de bâtir une rallonge à la maison. Le frère de Georges, Gérard, et plus tard son père, Louis Bastien, restaient avec eux. C'était la première fois que Georges voyait son frère et son père depuis l'âge de 18 ans. En 1950, Georges vendait son terrain à son frère et déménagea près de la rivière, Little Smoky, où il bâtit une plus grande maison. En juillet 1955, ils ont déménagé dans leur maison neuve avec leurs sept enfants. En 1956 Georges et son frère Gérard sont retournés au Québec. C'était la première fois que Georges retournait dans 26 ans.

Georges et Gertrude sont fiers de leur famille de 13 enfants vivants.



R.1 Bernard, Georges, Gertrude, Noël. R.2 Rita, Madeleine, Bernadette, Gisèle, Denise, Annette. R.3 André, Jules, Marcel, Germain, Arthur.

En 1976 Georges et Gertrude ont vendu leur ferme aux garçons, André, Bernard, Jules et Noël, qui demeurent encore là. En 1980, après quelques déménagements ils sont allés habiter à Donnelly dans la résidence des citoyens d'âge d'or. Ils aiment beaucoup leur vie tranquille.

*Georges Bastien; n.16-12-1911 m.18-04-1945
Gertrude Benoit; n.15-01-1922*

ENFANTS:

1. Marcel; n.05-04-1946 m.30-09-1972
Shelly Stefanic
a) Claude
2. Bernadette; n.30-05-1947 m.13-05-1967
Daniel Napier. Ils ont trois enfants: Rick, Teena et Darcy.
3. Germain; n.04-10-1948 m.10-07-1971
Louise Cloutier (voir Bastien, Germain)

4. Arthur; n.10-03-1950 m.20-03-1976
Anne Napier (voir Bastien, Arthur)
5. Madeleine; n.23-07-1951 m.09-10-1970
Julien Gervais; Ils ont trois enfants: David, Steven et Gail.
6. Denise; n.29-10-1952 m.18-07-1970
Remi Cloutier. Ils ont trois enfants: Donald, Joanne et Nicole.
7. Gisele; n.23-07-1954 m.03-02-1973
Alfy Smith. Ils ont deux enfants: Shawn et Travis.
8. Andre; n.11-08-1956
9. Bernard; 20-11-1957
10. Rita; n.08-02-1959 m.21-07-1979
Calvin Moore; d.04-1985; Ils ont deux enfants: Nicole et Kimberley.
11. Jules; n.10-11-1959
12. Laurette; n.10-11-1959 d.à sa naissance
13. Annette; n.30-01-1961 m.22-09-1979
Daniel Drouin. Ils ont trois enfants: Dominique, Danielle et Chantal.
14. Noël; n.20-12-1961



Georges and Roland Bastien.

* * *

In 1930, Georges, at the age of eighteen, decided to leave Québec and venture west in the Peace River country, with his older brother Roland. It was during the years of the Depression and it took a lot of courage to come and open by hand homesteads in Guy. It is in 1946 that Georges could purchase his first tractor, a W6 International.

On April 18, 1945 he married Gertrude Benoit. Their union was blessed by Father Ubald Robert O.M.I. Their honeymoon shack was a 12' x 18' building. In 1950, the family moved down by the river in a larger house, situated in a beautiful spruce grove. There, Gertrude had nice sandy soil for gardening and lots of water. They gradually enlarged their herd of cattle.

In 1976, they sold their land to their sons and retired. They lived for a while in Edmonton, then came back to reside on the farm close to the boys. In 1980, they moved to Donnelly in the Senior Citizens residence, where they are still living now, enjoying a quiet life.

BASTIEN, GERARD & MAISONNEUVE EMILIA

par Gérard Bastien

Je suis né le 28 mai 1915 à St-Joachim la Plaine, le fils de Joseph Bastien et de Bernadette Gauthier, le huitième d'une famille de onze enfants.

En 1949, au mois de mai, je suis venu à Guy voir mes deux frères, Rolland et Georges. J'ai trouvé les terres grandes et belles et je suis resté. Les premières années, j'ai travaillé pour mon frère les mois d'été. L'hiver, j'allais au chantier. En 1954 j'ai acheté une parcelle de terrain près de la rivière Boucane (Little Smoky) environ cent dix acres, en gros bois et très difficile à défricher. La première année j'ai défriché dix acres. Quand j'ai vu la qualité de la terre, l'idée m'est venue de cultiver des patates. A tous les ans je défrichais de quinze à vingt acres de terrain.



Gérard & Emilia Bastien devant leur première maison près de la rivière Little Smoky.

En 1955 j'ai bâti ma première maison, douze pieds par dix huit pieds. Lors d'un voyage, mon père m'a présenté la fille de son grand ami. Après de courtes fréquentations j'épousais Emilia Maisonneuve à Morinville le 4 avril 1956. Elle est née le 13 août 1918, fille de Théodule Maisonneuve et de Hectorine L'Abbé. Nous avons toujours travaillé ensemble. Dans le temps, presque tout se faisait à la main, je me rappelle que nous avons coupé les patates pour la semence pendant trois semaines assis sur des bûches dans le caveau. On faisait le triage des patates à la main aussi. On commençait au mois d'octobre et on finissait en mars. La seule chose que je n'ai pas fait à la main c'est la semence. C'est la première machine à patate que j'ai achetée. Après j'ai acheté une coupeuse et d'autres ont suivi, un crible, une arracheuse avec ponts, une laveuse et une sècheuse. Le ramassage des patates se faisait à la main les premières années. Nous avons une douzaine d'hommes pour nous aider. J'ai vendu mes patates au magasin de gros à Dawson Creek pendant onze ans. Après ça je les vendais localement. C'est dire que cultiver quarante-cinq acres de patates demandait beaucoup de travail et de temps, mais ça payait bien. ça nous a permis de bâtir un gros caveau en 1961 et une maison en 1963.

Tout alla bien jusqu'en septembre 1967. Je tombai malade et je fus incapable de travailler. Nous avons vendu en avril 1968. Nous sommes allés vivre à Edmonton durant dix ans. Ma



Champs de patates au temps de l'arrachage chez Gérard Bastien.

femme a travaillé à l'hôpital Miséricorde plusieurs années et par la suite comme concierge. Ayant elle même pris sa retraite, nous sommes revenus dans la région. Nous avons acheté une propriété à Falher, où nous demeurons présentement.

* * *

In May of 1949, I came to Guy to visit my two brothers, Rolland and Georges. I stayed to work for one of them. In winter I went to work in the lunber camp. After breaking ten acres on a piece of land near the Smoky, I got the idea of growing potatoes and every year I'd break from fifteen to twenty acres.

In 1955, I built my first house. During a trip, my father introduced me to my future wife. After our wedding we always worked together, sorting potatoes by hand at first and gradually buying machinery such as a seeder. At first we hired a dozen men to pick potatoes by hand. For eleven years we sold the crop to a wholesale store in Dawson Creek and later, locally. To grow forty-five acres of potatoes required hard work and time but allowed us to build a storage cellar in 1961 and a house in 1963. We now reside in Falher.

BASTIEN, GERMAIN & CLOUTIER, LOUISE

par Germain Bastien

Je suis le deuxième fils de Georges Bastien et Gertrude Benoit, né le 4 octobre 1948. Mes premières années passées près de la rivière Little Smoky ont été heureuses. Là il y avait du sable, de l'eau et des beaux gros arbres, où j'ai eu beaucoup de plaisir à jouer avec des jouets de bois, tels tracteurs à chenille, faits à la maison.

Quand j'étais assez grand pour suivre mon père, j'ai commencé à aider aux travaux de la ferme, car il y avait des vaches, des cochons et des poules à soigner tous les jours. Et puis, de temps en temps j'allais faire ma tournée au garage pour faire un peu de mécanique avec mon père.

En 1954, j'ai commencé l'école à Guy, mais vu qu'il n'y avait pas de service d'autobus, il a fallu demeurer au couvent. Nous mangions beaucoup de macaroni et de gruau. C'est peut-être pour ça que ma ceinture était aussi longue que j'étais grand à ce temps-là. Quelques années plus tard l'autobus venait nous chercher à la maison quand il faisait beau. Lorsqu'il pleuvait il fallait marcher presque deux milles jusqu'à la grande route. Après la construction d'un meilleur chemin il n'y avait



Louise et Germain Bastien.

plus de problèmes. J'ai étudié de la première à la neuvième années à l'école à Guy. J'aimais beaucoup les mathématiques, la science et les filles. Ensuite je suis allé une année à l'école "Grouard Vocational" où j'ai demeuré en résidence. J'ai appris un peu de mécanique et de soudage pour m'aider sur la ferme.

Au printemps 1967, avec l'aide de mon père, nous avons trouvé du terrain à New Fish Creek. C'est là que j'ai commencé ma vie de fermier avec mon frère Arthur. Nous avons défriché le terrain avec un "D 4 Cat" et quelques autres machines que nous avions. La première année, nous avons semé du lin. C'était une belle récolte mais la gelée a tout gâté. Nous n'avons rien récolté. Cet hiver là nous avons été tous les deux travailler à l'extérieur. J'ai choisi d'aller travailler à High Level dans le chantier sur un chargeur de bois ronds. C'était toujours la même situation, les été sur la ferme et les hivers dans le bois, vu que les récoltes n'étaient pas suffisantes.

En 1970, j'ai rencontré une jeune demoiselle de Donnelly, qui faisait très bien mon affaire. Je me suis marié avec Louise Cloutier le 10 juillet 1971. C'est encore à New Fish Creek, dans une petite maison de 18' X 24' avec peu de commodités que nous avons commencé notre vie conjugale. Au commencement Louise trouvait ça difficile de ne pas avoir l'eau courrante. Mais avec beaucoup de travail toutes les choses désirées ont été obtenues.



Norman & Marc Bastien.

Nous avons continué à travailler le terrain. Ensuite en 1972, nous avons acheté une partie du troupeau de mon père. Nous avons déménagé les vaches à New Fish Creek, mais là ce n'était plus sur le beau sable, c'était dans la boue soixante-quinze pour cent du temps. Durant ces années pluvieuses les animaux avaient beaucoup de difficultés. En 1975, nous sommes retournés sur la ferme de mon père. Nous avons vendu le terrain de New Fish Creek ainsi que les animaux. Arthur et moi avons dissous notre association.

Pour quelque années, j'ai défriché et cultivé du terrain pour d'autre gens. Mais comme on dit: une fois fermier toujours un fermier, alors j'ai acheté le terrain de M. Amédée Fortier en mai 1979. Aussi cette année là, nous avons acheté un gros camion pour charroyer des bilots et du gravier car la ferme ne rapportait pas assez. En septembre 1980 nous avons déménagé à Fox Creek pour travailler en construction générale.

Enfin nous avons reçu l'appel longtemps attendu. Cinq ans auparavant nous avions fait la demande pour adopter un enfant. Nous étions très contents de cette grande nouvelle, car ça faisait dix ans que nous étions mariés et sans enfants.

Nous sommes demeurés à Fox Creek, seulement un ans parce que le travail avait ralenti beaucoup. C'est ensuite le retour sur la ferme, au même travail, la culture et le camionnage.

En mars 1984, nous avons eu notre deuxième appel: aller chercher notre autre petit garçon. Nous sommes aussi heureux cette fois que la première fois.

Nous remercions le bon Dieu d'avoir rempli notre vie avec une si joyeuse petite famille.

Louise fait beaucoup de couture à la maison pour nous tous et pour bien d'autres. Elle se tient toujours très occupée avec toutes sortes de projets.

Germain Bastien; n.04-10-1948 m.10-07-1971

Louise Cloutier; n.16-02-1954

ENFANTS:

1. Norman; n.03-01-1981

2. Marc; n.10-03-1984

* * *

Germain was born the second son of a family of thirteen children to Georges and Gertrude Benoit. While still young, the family moved to a homestead down by the Smoky River. There, everyone felt very happy as this was a very quiet and nice place, amidst trees and sandy soil. We would play with home made toys made of wood. There I grew, learned to farm, worked with machinery and animals, and developed a taste for being a farmer.

After completing my grade nine in Guy, I went for one year at the Grouard Vocational School to learn more about mechanics and welding, which would be very handy as a farmer. I then took possession of some land and worked out in the bush in winter to keep up with the expenses.

In 1971, having met a girl of my choice, I married Louise. We kept on farming in the New Fish Creek area. After trying to survive on different farms, we are now living on the N.W. 1/4-21-74-21 W of 5th. We are operating "cats" and trucking, as well as farming.

After being married for ten years and having no children, we applied for adoption. Finally in 1981, we had the good news that little Norman was waiting for us. Then in 1984, brother, Marc, was coming to us to complete our family.

BASTIEN, ROLAND & JOHNSON, RITA

par Rosaire Bastien

Roland est né à Sainte Anne des Plaines le 27 janvier 1909. Fils de Jos Bastien et Bernadette Gauthier, il avait sept frères et deux soeurs. Elevé sur une ferme avec huit garçons dans la famille, le futur chez lui n'était pas trop avantageux. Il est devenu chauffeur de camion, ensuite a travaillé à polir des poignées de porte dans un hôpital à Boston. Au bout de trois mois



Roland et Rita Bastien.

il en avait assez et voulait continuer d'être cultivateur.

Son père leur disait que leur "héritage était le grand chemin". C'était ce qu'il avait à lui offrir.

En 1928 Jos est venu à Girouxville où il prit trois ou quatre quarts de terres. Le plus petit bois avait dix pouces sur la souche. Mon grand-père ne savait pas que M. Sylvio Villeneuve restait à Falber parce qu'il serait arrêté là.

L'oncle de mon père, Antoine Gauthier était marié à la soeur de Sylvio Villeneuve. Reine, une petite fille de Sylvio, était retournée dans l'est avec sa grand-mère. Alors au mois de mars 1930, Roland, âgé de 21 ans, et son frère Georges qui en avait 18, partirent avec Reine, qui avait cinq ou six ans et vinrent dans l'Ouest. Ils rencontrèrent M. Villeneuve à Falber et ayant pris soin de leur petite fille, ont été reçus à bras ouverts.

M. Villeneuve connaissait le pays et leur fit prendre chacun un "homestead" à Guy pour \$10.00. Ensuite ils avaient besoin d'une bonne bache et il leur manquait dix sous pour payer.

Au mois d'avril, ils sont venus se bâtir un petit "shack", déménagèrent et commencèrent à défricher la terrain. La première année, ils ont cassé une trentaine d'acres. Ayant eu un feu de forêt, c'était plus facile à défricher. C'est pour cette raison qu'ils se sont établis ici, au lieu de Girouxville, sous les conseils de M. Villeneuve. L'hiver de 1931 il n'y a pas eu de neige et ils ont ouvert cent acres. En 1934-1935 leur voisin M. Lachaine est mort et il laissa son "homestead" à mon père.



Rollande, Juliette, Anita, Rita, Cécile, Roland et bébé Lucienne Bastien, 1949.

Georges et Roland passaient leurs hivers à faire du bois de poêle. Ensuite, ils le transportaient à Falber et le vendaient pour \$4.00 la corde, fendu, prêt à chauffer. Roland a aussi conduit un camion pour M. Donat Gagnon pour trois automnes à charroyer du grain. Il remplissait la boîte de cent cinquante minots avec une pelle.

En 1933 ou 1934 il partit avec son voisin, M. Gingras, qui voulait aller reprendre ses terres à Moonbeam, dans le nord de l'Ontario. Il était "trop nerveux pour "jomper" les "freights" tout seul alors Roland est allé avec lui. Georges serait allé aussi mais M. Villeneuve ne voulait pas. Il avait pour son dire que s'ils partaient tous les deux ils ne reviendraient pas. Roland s'est rendu jusqu'à Amos et il revint sans se rendre chez ses parents. Il dit que s'il s'était rendu chez lui, il ne serait pas revenu.

Durant ce temps la famille Emile Johnson était venue s'installer dans la région. Ma mère, Rita, fille d'Emile et Anna Richard est née à Ste-Marie Salomé P.Q. le 29 janvier 1917. Les Johnson ont demeuré à Ferland en Saskatchewan. Ensuite en 1930, ils sont venus s'installer à Donnelly.

Mon père a connu ma mère quand les John-



R.1 Noëlla, Rita, Jocelyne, Roland, Rollande. R.2 Lucienne, Cécile, Rosaire, Anita, Juliette.

son sont venus s'établir à deux milles au nord de Guy. Ensuite à une veillée de partie de cartes, il présente une boîte de chocolats à Rita. C'est là que les amours ont commencé.

Le 26 décembre 1940, ils se marient. Mon père continua à faire du bois de poêle, des poteaux, des piquets et de la glace. Ils demeurèrent dans leur logis de 12 pieds par 18 pieds pour cinq à six ans alors qu'il ajouta une rallonge de 10 pieds par 12 pieds. En 1950, après une bonne récolte, il bâtit la maison dans laquelle il demeure encore.

Ma mère était occupée avec la famille. Ils ont eu neuf enfants dont sept filles et deux garçons. Ils perdirent un petit, Gaston, qui avait seulement trois semaines. Elle était aussi impliquée dans les activités de la paroisse. Ma mère est décédée subitement à l'âge de 64 ans.

Ils ont eu des temps durs, mais ils ont toujours donné le meilleur d'eux-mêmes à leurs enfants, ainsi que beaucoup d'amour.

Roland Bastien: n. 27-01-1909 m. 26-12-1940

Rita Johnson: n. 29-01-1917 d. 21-02-1981

ENFANTS:

1) Rollande: n. 30-09-1941 m. 28-12-1963

Benoît Gosselin: n. 21-04-1939

Ils ont deux enfants: Carolynne et René.

2) Cécile: n. 30-10-1942 m. 28-11-1964

Gérard Dancause: n. 11-06-1938

Ils ont deux enfants Roger et Denny

3) Anita: n. 06-06-1944 m. 24-09-1966

Michel Chameroys:

Ils ont deux enfants Jean-Claude et Daniel

4) Juliette: n. 29-01-1946 m. 10-11-1979
Raymond Paquette:

5) Lucienne: n. 01-08-1948 m. 23-02-1985
Vencenzo Scavuzzo:

Ils ont deux enfants Michelle et Rosalia

6) Noëlla: n. 27-12-1949 m. 21-11-1981
James West:

Ils ont deux enfants Lorianne et Nathaniel

7) Rosaire: n. 16-11-1951 m. 10-11-1973
Dolorès Morin:

Ils ont quatre enfants James, John, Joey et Jerold

8) Jocelyne: n. 24-11-1954 m. 31-08-1974
André Labrecque: n. 03-10-1955

Ils ont cinq enfants Joanne, Robert, Guy, Luc et Joëlle.

* * *

In March 1930 when Roland was 21 and his brother George was 18, they came out West. They met Mr. Villeneuve in Falher and were welcomed there. He encouraged them to take each a homestead in Guy for 10,00 \$.

In April they built a shack and started to break land. With no snow in the winter of 1931, they opened one hundred acres. Other winters were spent making and selling firewood. Roland also drove Mr. Donat Gagnon's grain truck for three consecutive autumns, shovelling one hundred and fifty bushels per load.

In 1933 or 1934, he accompanied a neighbor, Mr. Gingras, on a trip to Moonbeam, Ontario.

During this time Emile Johnson's family had settled in the region. Roland met Rita at a card party. After their marriage, my father continued making firewood, poles, posts and ice. After living in a 12 x 18 house they built an addition and in 1950 they built a new home in which Roland still lives.

BASTIEN, ROSAIRE & MORIN, DOLORES

par Rosaire Bastien

Je suis né le 16 novembre 1951, fils de Rolland Bastien et Rita Johnson. Etant le seul garçon avec sept filles, j'avais certains privilèges quand j'étais jeune, j'accompagnais mes parents plus souvent que les filles. C'était difficile par moment pour moi et pour les filles aussi. Je me suis fait endurcir par mes voisins, les Gagnons où je passais tout mon temps libre. Il y avait neuf garçons et ils demeuraient juste de l'autre côté du chemin.

J'ai fréquenté l'école de Guy de la première à la neuvième année, et l'école de Falher pour mes trois dernières années. Je pensionnais au Collège Notre Dame de la Paix. En 1969 - 1970 j'ai



R.1 Dolores, Jerold, Joey, John. R.2 James & Rosaire Bastien.

étudié au Collège Universitaire St. Jean à Edmonton.

Je suis ensuite revenu à la maison où j'aidais mon père à cultiver et je travaillais ailleurs durant les hivers. C'est à ce temps que j'ai rencontré une jeune, jolie demoiselle qui travaillait à High Prairie, où je travaillais moi aussi. Je l'avais remarquée lors de mes études à Falher. Dolorès, fille de Sylva Morin et Patricia Dolan est née le 27 juillet, 1953. Elle travaillait à la banque Toronto Dominion à High Prairie quand elle fit ma connaissance. Elle dit qu'elle ne me connaissait pas, mais moi je me rappelais d'elle, surtout de ses yeux!

Le 10 novembre 1973 nous nous sommes mariés à Falher. Nous sommes restés à Falher jusqu'au mois d'août 1974 alors que nous déménagions à Guy, sur la terre que j'avais achetée de mes parents.

Ma femme m'a toujours encouragé et donné son support en travaillant à Falher à plein temps depuis que nous sommes mariés, afin de suppléer aux revenus de la ferme. Elle travaille encore aujourd'hui en plus de prendre soin de quatre gamins.

Nous sommes heureux ici et espérons y demeurer encore longtemps.

Rosaire Bastien: n. 16-11-1951
m. 10-11-1973

Dolorès Morin: n. 27-07-1953

Enfants:

- 1) James: n. 22-12-1974
- 2) John: n. 25-02-1978
- 3) Joey: n. 12-02-1980
- 4) Jerold: n. 20-09-1983

* * *

I went to school in Guy and in Falher and later on at Collège Universitaire St-Jean at Edmonton. I then helped my father farm and worked out during winters. One winter in High Prairie I met Dolores Morin. We got married in Falher but are now living happily in Guy on land bought from my parents.

BEAUDOIN, LEOPOLD & GARAND, ALICE

par Alice Beaudoin

Léopold est né le 12 avril 1907 à St-Ludger, Comté Frontenac, fils de Cyril Beaudoin et Marie Bégin.

Il était le 3ième d'une famille de 10 enfants. En 1919, ses parents décidèrent d'aller s'établir à La Reine en Abitibi où le père voulait établir ses 8 garçons sur des fermes nouvelles. La famille arriva dans leur nouveau coin de pays en mai



Alice & Léopold Beaudoin.

1919. Mais comme dit le dicton, l'homme propose et Dieu dispose. C'est ce qui arriva à la famille Beaudoin.

En juin 1919 l'avant dernier, Laval âgé de deux ans et demi mourait. Deux mois plus tard le Père, Cyril à l'âge de 37 ans, mourut presque subitement, et deux autres mois plus tard le plus vieux des garçons, Joseph, à 14 ans mourut à son tour. Après de telles épreuves, il est facile à comprendre que la mère tomba malade. Elle décida alors de déménager à La Sarre, où ses parents demeuraient. Heureusement pour toute la famille la mère se remit sur pied et organisa sa vie de nouveau. Léopold à cette époque n'avait que 12 ans, mais il commença à travailler avec ses oncles, entrepreneurs de chantiers en Ontario. Il était aide-cuisinier. A 16 ans il entra à l'emploi de la Spruce Falls Co. au moulin à papier de Kapuskasing. Il demeura à cet emploi pour un an, et à 17 ans avec quelques jeunes il décida d'aller prendre un "homestead" dans la nouvelle région d'Opasatika, et c'est là que l'histoire de Léopold et Alice Garand va commencer. Alice née le 15 décembre 1910, arriva avec ses parents, Stanislas Garand et Céline Marquis en novembre 1925. Le Père d'Alice avait les mêmes ambitions que le père de Léopold; placer ses trois garçons sur ses terres de St-Magloire, Cté de Bellechasse. Mais la mère avait l'ambition de garder ses deux filles, Anna et Alice. C'est pourquoi monsieur Garand construisit un hôtel de 10 chambres, ce qui tenait bien occupé la mère et ses filles, mais c'est aussi l'endroit où se faisait des rencontres. Il arriva à Alice et Léopold de se rencontrer et ensuite de faire des fréquentations plus sérieuses, ce qui les conduira à leur union pour la vie. Le mariage eut lieu le 28 septembre 1927, Léopold avait 20 ans et Alice 16 ans. Malgré leur jeune âge ils se débrouillèrent très bien, même s'il arrivait un bébé presque à tous les ans. Léopold travaillait à couper du bois de pulpe pendant l'hiver, et l'été, il travaillait au chargement de bois de la rivière au "flat car".

Ce fut comme cela pendant quelques années et ensuite il eut un emploi comme gardien des terres et forêts qu'il garda jusqu'au déménagement de la famille en Alberta, en 1947. Léopold était venu passer un mois en 1946, durant le temps des récoltes et avait été fasciné par les beaux champs de blés dorés. Alors il se décida le printemps 1947. La famille arriva à Falher le 13 juin, 1947. Alice arriva en train avec 5 enfants de 12 ans et moins et Léopold montait en automobile avec 5 autres enfants; les deux plus vieux, Maurice et Réal, étaient déjà arrivés à Falher depuis le 13 avril 1947 avec un train-

excursion qui amenait les familles de l'Est à l'Ouest. A son arrivée à la gare de Falher, Alice n'y vit que M. Raoul Doucet avec un gros camion qui lui offrit de les amener chez M. Alphonse Garand car tout le ménage et bagages étaient arrivées quelques jours plus tôt sur un wagon marchandise loué à cet effet. Léopold arriva deux jours plus tard extenué par ce voyage, car la plupart des chemins "Trans Canada", n'étaient que gravelés, et il fallait se coucher tôt avec tous ces enfants.

Le début fut très dur, car à notre arrivées nous n'avions qu'une grainerie pour loger enfants et ménage, mais à l'automne on construisit une rallonge à la maison; ce fut un peu plus confortable. Mais cela n'était pas le seul problème car nous n'avions pas encore de réservoir pour nous fournir l'eau. Nous allions chercher l'eau avec deux barils chez M. Charles Dupuis. Certains jours nous prenions l'eau d'un bout, et de l'autre bout une truie buvait. Nous sommes demeurés 3 ans à cet endroit et en mai 1950 nous achetions la terre de M. Joseph Laverdière qui était celle où la première église de Falher était construite, et qui fut notre maison pendant huit ans. En 1958 nous vendions



R.1 Claude, Thérèse, Alice & Léopold, Lise, Henri. R.2 André, Gisèle, Jean-Marc, Cécile, Réal, Dolores, Maurice, Jeannine, Roger, Claudette, Laval, Colette.

cette terre à M. Guy Roy parce que le gouvernement nous obligeait à demeurer au moins trois ans sur nos "homesteads" avant d'obtenir les titres. C'est comme cela que nous avons demeuré à Guy pendant 3 ans. L'hiver Léopold allait dans les chantiers où il était contremaître à un moulin à scie. Alice le suivait avec les deux enfants qui n'allait pas encore à l'école, et les autres étaient placés au pensionnat Providence de McLennan. L'été se passait sur la ferme. Cela jusqu'en 1960, car Léopold étant malade, il

nous fallait se rapprocher de l'hôpital. Il doit sa vie à cette décision. En juillet 1960, nous achetions la maison de Mme Arthur L'abbé ce qui nous accommodait car les enfants étaient avec nous et je prenais un emploi à l'hôpital de McLennan que je gardai pour quatre ans. En 1971 Léopold décida de se faire opérer; il a eu trois pontages aux artères du coeur. Cela lui a permis de pouvoir travailler pendant presque neuf ans à remodeler notre vieille maison. En juin 1980 son coeur et ses reins flanchèrent très rapidement et il mourut le 29 juin 1980. Alice demeure toujours dans cette grande maison de 6 chambres à coucher où elle aime bien recevoir sa famille qui compte maintenant 102 descendants. Il n'est pas rare que l'on soit de 15 à 30 assemblés pour une fête ou un anniversaire, qui ne passe jamais inaperçu chez les Beaudoins.

Léopold Beaudoin; n.12-04-1907 m.28-09-1927 d.29-06-1980

Alice Garand; n. 15-12-1910.

ENFANTS:

1. Maurice; n.24-06-1928 m.15-06-1955
Lucille Gosselin. Enfants; Julien, Lévis, Richard, Jacques, Gérard et Paul.
2. Réal; n. 23-08-1929 m.09-11-1957
Madeleine Gosselin. Enfants; Myriam, Daniel, Rita, Norman, Angèle, Darcy et Donald.
3. Roger; n.03-10-1930 m.09-04-1977
Marguerite Chauvette.
4. Claude; n.20-09-1931 d.27-11-1931
5. Dolores; n.18-01-1933. Religieuse: Petite Missionnaire St-Joseph.
6. Claude; n.18-05-1934 m.03-07-1971
Lorraine Brulotte. Enfants; Guy, Jean et Nicole.
7. Thérèse; n.30-08-1935 m.12-04-1971
Lionel Bégin. Enfants: Lisa, Chantal et Anne.
8. Gisèle; n.03-01-1937 m.08-08-1958
Peter Dalton. Ils ont six enfants.
9. Jeannine; n.26-08-1938 m.09-11-1957
Gérard Guérette. Ils ont six enfants
10. Laval; 16-03-1940. celbataire.
11. Claudette; n.06-01-1942 m.12-07-1961
John Wawrzonek. (voir Wawrzonek, John)
12. André; n.31-03-1943 m.23-10-1971
Yvette Johnson. Ils ont trois enfants.
13. Colette; n.28-11-1944 m.19-08-1966
Neil Vandekley. Ils ont trois enfants.
14. Lise; n.13-06-1946 m.21-08-1968
Denis Godin. Ils ont trois enfants.
15. Cécile; n.31-12-1947 m.21-06-1969
Marcel Mercier. Ils ont trois enfants.
16. Jean-Marc; n.21-01-1950 m.16-12-1972
Donna Babin. Ils ont trois enfants.

17. Henri; n.29-12-1951 m.22-12-1973

Joan Carley. Ils ont trois enfants.

18. Myriam; n.19-08-1955 d.28-11-1955

* * *

Léopold was born on April 12, 1907 at St-Ludger, comté Frontenac, Québec., son of Cyril Beaudoin and Marie Bégin. He was the third of ten children. Alice Garand was born on December 15, 1910, daughter of Stanislas Garand and Céline Marquis. She had three brothers and a sister. Léopold and Alice were married at Opasatika, Ontario on September 28, 1927.

In 1946, Léopold came out west to work during the harvesting season. He was fascinated by the large and beautiful golden wheatfields and decided to move. Our family, which then counted twelve children, arrived in Falher in the spring of 1947. We were received at Alphonse Garand's place.

The beginnings were very difficult. Our shelter was small for such a family. We had no pond, so we had to get water with barrels from the neighbour, Mr. Charles Dupuis. In 1950 we bought from Joseph Laverdière the land on which the first church of Falher was built and it became our home for eight years. In 1958, we sold this land to Guy Roy and we moved to our homestead in Guy. In order to obtain the title to the land, we had to live there for a least three years.

During the winters, Leopold would go to work in the lumber camps where he was foreman at a sawmill. I would also go along with the two youngest children not yet of age to go to school. The other children were placed at Providence Boarding School in McLennan. During the summers we worked on the farm.

In 1960, Léopold being sick, we had to move to be nearer to the hospital. We bought Arthur Labbé's house in McLennan. It was very advantageous since the children were at home and I got a job at the hospital, which I kept for four years. In 1971, Léopold was operated for three by-passes to the heart arteries. This enabled him to work for nine more years during which time he remodelled our old house. In June 1980, he became ill again and died on June 29.

I am still living in this big six-bedroom house where I like to receive our family which now numbers one hundred two descendants. It isn't unusual to be fifteen to thirty of us assembled for a birthday or anniversary which never goes unnoticed at the Beaudoins.

BEAUDOIN, MAURICE & GOSSELIN, LUCILLE

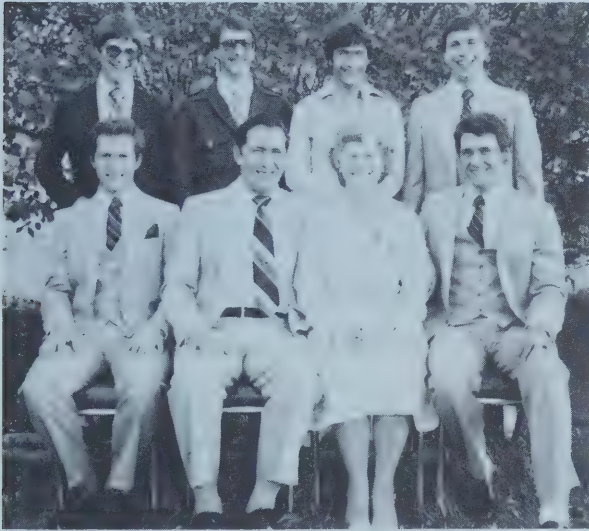
par Lucille

Maurice fils de Léopold et d'Alice Beaudoin réside à Falher lors de son mariage avec Lucille, fille d'Ernest Gosselin et Lydia Chabot de Guy.

Après le mariage en 1955 le jeune couple s'installe à Guy sur une concession S ½ 22-76-20-W5 que Maurice avait obtenu en 1948.

C'est sur cette ferme que Maurice et Lucille élèvent leur six garçons. Ceux-ci fréquentent l'école Langlois jusqu'au secondaire qu'ils ont fait à G.P. Vanier de Donnelly.

En 1965 la famille déménage à McLennan pour trois ans. En 1968 elle revient sur la ferme où elle demeure pour les onze prochaines années. En 1979 Maurice vend la terre où ils habitent et la famille retourne à McLennan au début janvier 1980. C'est là qu'elle demeure depuis.



Famille Maurice Beaudoin: R.1 Julien, Maurice, Lucille, Lévis. R.2 Paul, Jacques, Gérard et Richard.

Maurice et Lucille possèdent encore trois quarts de terre à Guy et Julien et Richard ont chacun une demi-section près des terres de leurs parents.

"Nous avons de bon souvenirs de Guy même si nous avons l'intention de prendre notre retraite à McLennan; une partie de nous est restée dans cette petite communauté où nous nous sommes faits beaucoup d'amis. N'est-ce pas là où nous avons vu grandir nos petits?"

Maurice Beaudoin: n. 24-06-1928 m. 15-06-1955

Lucille Gosselin: n. 11-06-1933

ENFANTS:

1) Julien: n. 25-02-1958

2) Lévis: n. 05-01-1960 m. 31-07-1982

Maxine Morman

a) Jonatban: n. 03-07-1983

b) Michel: n. 16-10-1984

c) Andrew: n. 18-01-1986

Ils demeurent à Nipawin, Saskatchewan

3) Richard: n. 02-12-1961

4) Jacques: n. 10-06-1963

5) Gérard: n. 23-08-1964

6) Paul: n. 26-01-1966

* * *

After their marriage in 1955, the couple settles in Guy on a homestead which Maurice had acquired in 1948.

It's on this farm that Maurice and Lucille raise their six boys. These attend Langlois and G.P. Vanier schools.

In 1965 the family moves to McLennan for three years.

In 1968 They return on the farm where they reside for the next eleven years. In 1979, Maurice sells the land where they live and the family returns to McLennan at the beginning of January 1980. This is where they reside since.

Maurice and Lucille still own three quarters in Guy; Julien and Richard each have a half section near their parents's land.

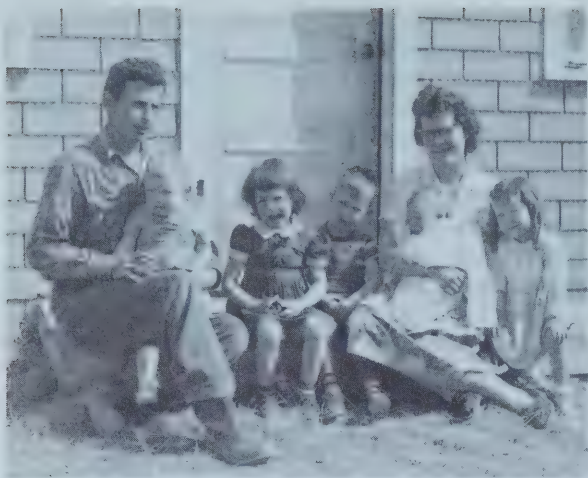
BEAUDOIN, REAL & GOSSELIN, MADELEINE

By Madeleine Beaudoin

I am the daughter of Ernest and Lydia Gosselin. I was ten months old when my family moved from the province of Québec to Guy in 1941.

Life in Guy must have been very difficult for my parents as there were no comforts of any kind. We had no power, telephone or running water. We lived on a farm and at first everything was done by hand or with horses. I remember when my father bought his first tractor; it was quite a thrill not only for him but for all of us children as well. Then finally came the combine and more modern machinery. The power line came through when I was about thirteen years old. How happy we were to put the oil lamp aside! We never did get the telephone or running water while I was at home.

In 1957 I married Real Beaudoin and we tried farming a small homestead. We soon realized that we weren't cut out for the farm; so in 1963 we moved to Slave Lake where my husband has been working for the Forestry ever since. Our five children were born in Guy:



Réal, Norman, Myriam, Daniel, Madeleine et bébé Angèle et Rita.

CHILDREN:

- 1- Myriam; n.1958
- 2- Daniel; n.1959
- 3- Rita; n.1960
- 4- Norman; n.1961
- 5- Angèle; n.1962

* * *

Je suis la fille d'Ernest et de Lydia Gosselin. Je n'avais que 10 mois quand ma famille quitta la province de Québec pour s'en venir à Guy en 1941.

La vie à Guy semble avoir été bien difficile pour mes parents, car il n'y avait aucun confort. Il n'y avait pas de pouvoir électrique, pas de téléphone, ni d'eau courante. Nous vivions sur une ferme, et au début, tout le travail s'effectuait à la main ou avec des chevaux. L'électricité nous arrivait alors que j'avais environ treize ans. L'eau courante et le téléphone n'y étaient pas encore avant que je quitte la maison.

En 1957 j'épousais Réal Beaudoin, et nous avons tenté la culture sur un petit "homestead". Nous avons vite constaté que la ferme n'était pas pour nous; alors en 1963 nous partions vivre à Slave Lake où mon mari travaille au Ministère des Terres et Forêts.

BELLERIVE, ARMAND & AUDET(MARCEAU), ROLLANDE

by Armand Bellerive

I was born in Ste. Elizabeth, Manitoba on October 3rd, 1917 of Delphine Collette and Adrien Bellerive.

I enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1941 and was

discharged from services in 1945. Having worked on farms all my life, I decided to come north in search of land. I applied for a homestead in the fall of 1946. There were many delays. I was anxious to get going. Finally in desperation, I enlisted the help of Floyd Baker M.L.A. for Clover Bar, whom I had known for some time. In two weeks time I was given permission to occupy the land.

I started work on the land in late July 1946. I kept it up until freeze up and managed to clear forty-seven acres; all the clearing was done by hand. My first crop in 1948 was seeded in wheat, which suffered damage in a late August frost. But the germination of the wheat was good, with a 92 + count.



Armand and Rollande Bellerive building their log house in Girouxville.

When I first came here, there were no roads to my place, just a trail. The first road was two and a half miles away at Michael's corner and there was a very bad slough one and a half miles away from my place. I contacted the I.D. personnel about fixing that slough but was told that I would have to wait my turn. I let them know that I had a small Ford tractor with a bucket behind and that I would fix that road as soon as the slough had dried up. I finally got that road fixed and after much hassle, got paid for my work.

I homesteaded on the N¹/₂-22-76-22-W5. Later, I bought the south west quarter and shortly after, the north east quarter which gave me a section with 470 acres of arable land. I was a bachelor for most of my farming days. I was married on the 17 of December, 1976 to an old friend by the name of Rollande Audet, born Marceau. I sold the land to René Desaulniers in 1980.

During thirty four years of farming I went through tough times, but all in all it was reward-

ding. I had good neighbors and enjoyed it. I am now retired and living in Girouxville where most of my wife's family is residing. I have advice for the younger generation going through tough times: "Don't give up, fight for your rights and you'll come out on top. God bless you all."

Armand Bellerive: n. 03-10-1917 m. 17-12-1976
 Rollande Audet (nee Marceau): n. 17-05-1926

* * *

Je me suis enrôlé dans l'aviation canadienne en 1941 et j'ai été démobilisé en 1945. Ayant toujours travaillé sur des fermes, j'ai décidé de venir en chercher une dans le nord. Avec l'aide de Floyd Baker, M.A.L. de Clover Bar, j'obtins la permission d'occuper un terrain.

En juillet 1946, je commençai à défricher quarante-sept acres avant le gel. A ce temps il n'y avait pas de route, seulement qu'un sentier pour se rendre chez moi. J'ai dû faire mon propre chemin avec mon tracteur. J'ai acquis deux autres quarts ce qui me donna 470 acres de terre arable. J'ai été célibataire jusqu'en décembre 1976. Je suis maintenant retiré à Girouxville où la famille de ma femme demeure.

BENOIT, AURELE & PELLETIER, DELLA

par Simone Benoit Sirois

Aurèle est né à Ste-Angèle P.Q. En 1914 à l'âge de 21 ans il arrive à Vegreville. Il travaille sur la ferme avec son père et aussi dans une manufacture de portes et fenêtres où il gagne \$12.00 par jour. Un peu plus tard les salaires baissent et l'usine ferme ses portes. C'est alors qu'Aurèle décide de venir s'installer à Guy où son père a déjà pris du terrain. En avril 1928 Aurèle et son père chargent le ménage, les animaux, les machines aratoires dans deux wagons de chemin de fer et partent pour Donnelly. Son épouse arrive au mois de mai avec ses quatre enfants. La famille demeure à Donnelly en attendant que la maison soit construite. Aurèle se trouve un emploi avec Gaspard Dandurand qui est contracteur. Il travaille à la construction: la maison de Fred Erickson, le magasin Giroux à Girouxville, le magasin DeWindt à Falber ainsi que le garage Côté à Donnelly. En 1931, Aurèle travaille à la construction du couvent St. Bruno à Jousard et Della travaille pour M. Paul L'Heureux, agent du Ministère des Affaires Indiennes à Driftpile. Les enfants doivent fréquenter l'école de Jousard. La famille revient à Guy pour Noël et les enfants ne retournent pas à Jousard. Ils fréquentent l'école de Donnelly et sont pension-



R.1 Aurèle et Della Simone, Gertrude, Irène. R.2 Sylvio, Albert, Raymond Benoit.

naires au couvent nouvellement construit, ceci jusqu'en 1934 lorsque l'école Benoit est ouverte sur le terrain donné par M. Benoit. Aurèle devient propriétaire de son "homestead" en 1931. Il a 16 acres de défricher et a construit une maison, et des bâtiments nécessaires pour la ferme. En revenant de Jousard, Aurèle échange son automobile "Ford Model T" pour deux chevaux et un petit poulain. Aurèle aide beaucoup à la construction de l'église de Guy.

En 1941, Aurèle vend un quart de terre à Ernest Gosselin. Il bâtit une autre maison sur le terrain de Della, son épouse. Il vendit cet emplacement à Fortunat Lachance en 1943.

C'est alors qu'il achète le magasin de M. Arthur Robert à Guy. Mme Benoit est maîtresse de postes, Aurèle continue à cultiver le terrain de ses frères avec l'aide de ses garçons. Les enfants quittent le toit familial à tour de rôle.

En 1946 Aurèle vend son magasin à Jack Ellis et va demeurer à Donnelly.

M. et Mme Benoit déménageront plusieurs fois de Donnelly à McLennan. Aurèle est décédé le 11 mai 1986 après 68 ans de mariage.

Della née à Vegreville, AB, est une albertaine pure laine. Tout en élevant sa famille, Della trouve le temps d'être sage-femme. Elle assiste à la naissance d'au moins soixante-quinze bébés; elle est souvent seule pour la naissance. Elle a fait sa part dans les activités paroissiales. Maintenant elle réside au Foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan.

Aurèle Benoit; n.02-08-1894 m.09-04-1918 d.11-05-1986

Della Pelletier; n.30-11-1896

ENFANTS:

1. *Simone; n.15-06-1919 m.31-08-1943*

Gérald Sirois. Ils ont cinq enfants: Georgette, Denis, Hector, Claude et Doris.

2. Sylvio; n.17-10-1920 m.16-08-1945 d.18-09-1973
Gertrude Côté; n.26-06-1927. Ils ont sept enfants: Laurent, Louise, Roger, Gérard, Evelyn, Paul et Cécile.
3. Gertrude; n.15-01-1922 m.18-04-1945
George Bastien; n.10-12-1912 (voir Bastien, Georges)
4. Raymond; n.01-04-1923 m. 26-06-1954
Rita Turcotte (Voir Benoit, Raymond)
5. Roland; n.1924 d. 2 mois
6. Irène; n.26-05-1931 m.16-08-1949
Léon Giroux; Ils ont six enfants. Ils demeurèrent à Edmonton.
7. Albert; n.05-05-1936 m.13-12-1972
Mercedes Costonada.

* * *

Aurèle, born in Québec, moved to Vegreville, Alta., in 1914, at the age of twenty-one years. He worked as a labourer and in 1928 decided to go farming in Guy. He moved to Donnelly with his wife Della and four children. He worked as a carpenter in the region until they could move to the farm in Guy. Aurèle was one of the organizers of the Benoit school district, where a school was erected on land he donated. It was difficult clearing the land, and procuring the necessities for the family, so he kept on working as a carpenter. Later on, he bought the store in Guy, and until 1946, he was postmaster as well. Then they moved back to Donnelly where they retired. The last few years of Aurèle's life were spent in McLennan. He died after 68 years of married life, and rests in the Donnelly cemetery. Della, at ninety years, is still living in the Foyer Notre Dame du Lac in McLennan.

BENOIT, JEAN-BAPTISTE & DIONNE, ROSE DELIMA

par Simone Sirois

En 1913 Jean-Baptiste, veuf, avec une famille de neuf enfants, quitte Ste-Adèle avec son fils Josephat et vient s'installer à Vegreville, AB. Ses autres enfants arriveront un peu plus tard. Quatorze ans plus tard, en 1927, à l'âge de 73 ans, il déménage cette fois dans la région de Rivière la Paix. C'est à Guy qu'il prend par procuration, c'est à dire qu'il prend du terrain, huit quarts de section au nom de ses enfants. Il retourne à Vegreville pour revenir en avril 1928 avec ses animaux, machines aratoires, ménage, et ses poules. Il doit laisser sa voiture chez le père Thibault car le bois est trop fort pour le passage d'une voiture. Il demeure dans une tente avant

de construire sa maison dans une belle "épinetière". Cette maison, bâtie avec étable abou-tée, brûle lorsque M. Benoit est à cuire du pain. Il rebâtit à nouveau mais cette fois la maison est séparée de la grange. Pépère Benoit avait défriché cinquante acres à la hache et avec l'aide de son gros cheval blanc "Jumbo". Il a aussi complètement clôturé son terrain avec des perches.

En juillet 1939, M. Benoit décide de prendre sa retraite. Il rend visite à sa fille Rosalba Poulin à Winterburn. C'est là qu'il est décédé presque subitement deux semaines plus tard à l'âge de 85 ans. Il repose au cimetière de Vegreville, AB.

* * *

Jean Baptiste, a very courageous widower, arrived in Vegreville in 1913, coming from Québec with a family of nine children. Fourteen years later, at the age of seventy-three, he moved to Guy to become a real homesteader. When he arrived, he could barely make it to his farm with his animals and equipment because the roads were only trails. He first lived in a tent while building his log house. He did most of his land clearing by hand. In 1939, he had had enough and retired. He did not enjoy retirement very long, as he died two weeks later while visiting his daughter in Winterburn, AB.

BENOIT, JOSEPHAT

par Simone Benoit Sirois

Josephat, fils de Jean-Baptiste et de Rose Délima Dionne est né à Rouge Mont, P.Q. Après avoir passé treize ans à Vegreville avec sa famille, il vient à Guy avec son père, en 1927. Il prend le "homestead" NW-25-76-21-W5. Il défriche quelques acres de terre afin d'obtenir possession de la propriété. En plus il s'occupe du creusage de puits. En 1958 il vend sa terre à Benoit Lachance et se retire à McLennan. Il est mort de cancer à l'âge de 87 ans à l'Hôpital Général d'Edmonton. Il repose au cimetière de Donnelly.

Josephat Benoit; n.10-05-1893 d.05-1980

* * *

Josephat, son of Jean Baptiste and Rose Délima Dionne, was born in Rouge Mont, P.Q. He lived for thirteen years in Vegreville, and in 1927 moved to Guy. He filed and patented the N.W. 25-76-21-W5 homestead. To help clear the land he would dig wells with his drilling rig. In 1958 he retired in McLennan and lived there

until his death at the age of eighty-seven years. He was buried in the Donnelly cemetery.

BENOIT, RAYMOND & TURCOTTE, RITA

by Rita

Raymond was born in Vegreville in 1923. At the age of five, he moved with his parents, Aurele and Della, by train, to Donnelly. During that winter his dad built a log house of his own on a homestead five miles north of Guy (NW ¼ 30-76-20-W5). Ray's dad worked as a carpenter, sometimes far from home. When the "dirty thirties" came along, shortage of work resulted in the family subsisting on relief of five dollars a month. In 1943 Raymond's dad sold his land to Ernest Gosselin and bought the only store in Guy from Mr. Robert. At the time, Guy consisted of the church and the store. At the back of the store was the post-office.

Raymond hauled groceries from Peace River with a 1939 one and a half ton truck. He also hauled gas by the barrel to the farmers' homes. The gas cost fifteen cents a gallon, delivered. In 1949 Ray worked for Raoul Lambert hauling lumber from Whitemud area to Donnelly for wages of one dollar an hour, board included.



Benoit brothers: Daniel, Robert, Gabriel servicing their dad's 1928 Model A "Waltzing Mathilda".

I, Rita, was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan in September 1924. My father, Leonidas Turcotte, died of pneumonia when I was thirteen months old leaving my mother to fend for six children all under the age of eight years. My first eleven years were spent in Albertville, Sask., and then the family moved to a farm near McKague, Sask. I attended a country school there until I was in Grade 10. They were happy years. I loved the freedom of a country school and invented a thousand ways to make others laugh!

I moved from Saskatchewan to Alberta in 1947 to be closer to my mother, Mrs. Laurea (Wilhelmina) Turcotte, who was rather lonely being the first pioneer woman in what the settlers of the area called "Deadbush". Whiteland School was situated about five miles west of there. I was hired to teach at Whiteland in 1947. Travelling to visit my Mom, at first, had to be done with a four wheel drive army truck owned by my brother, Anatole. Driving down those bush trails gave one a pain in the side!

At a country school dance in Whiteland, Raymond and Rita met. Courting meant seeing Ray only on Sunday. One time, Ray stumbled from Guy through six foot snowdrifts to come courting! In 1949 we each filed a homestead lease for ten dollars (Rita: E ½ 35-74-20-W5) (Ray: N ½ 26-74-20-W5). By 1950 we had saved enough money to clear 90 acres. I thought that the money from the first crop would allow me to quit teaching and live on the farm full time, happily ever after! The first crop realized about 350 bushels of barley. Not owning our own combine the heavy winds got to it before it was threshed. Years followed of picking roots by hand and other back-breaking work for both of us. In 1952 we started building our first home. With the help of Melvin Brulotte and his horses, Ray cut the logs and hauled them to Sirois' mill. During that winter Ray hauled pulpwood with Henry Brulotte for \$150 a month. Our house was finished in 1954; Ray having done the work himself. We were married on June 26, 1954. At that time, Catholic marriages were held in the forenoon because mass was not celebrated in the afternoon. Church law required fasting from midnight on before receiving communion. The reception and dance were held at Whiteland School where I had been teaching for seven years. The students had scrubbed the floor on their knees, washed the windows, polished and decorated the school for the occasion. It was very heart warming to have them at the reception because they had been a good part of my life. A grade nine student, Rene Dlugosz, was our congenial chauffeur. At the time, Rene was even taller than my husband, Raymond!

Travelling in the 50's was still a problem. The gumbo on the dirt roads made it practically impossible to go anywhere when it rained. Ray's Model A Ford, dubbed "Waltzing Matilda" was often needed yet by ourselves and neighbors when roads got bad.

There was no phone, electricity, or TV in our area which often resulted in problematic situations. I will never forget the time a neighbor knocked at our door at 3 a.m. in the morning



R.1 Rita & Raymond. R.2 Robert, Gabriel, Daniel in 1980.

asking for help. Having no electricity, naturally, the house was dark when Ray let him in with his wife who was moaning and groaning. She sat on a chair in a corner of the room. By that time, I had joined them and heard him say that he had to get his wife to the hospital fast. Not realizing she was pregnant I offered her fruit salt! We pumped the old gas lantern, set a match to the mantles, and then I discovered the reason! Raymond and he first had to unload a truck load of lumber from the truck otherwise the holes in the the bush trail to High Prairie would have made it impossible for them to get through. Never was lumber unloaded so fast! Finally, they took off on their twenty-mile trip and the baby was born five minutes after their arrival at the hospital.

Power became available to us from Guy R.E.A. in 1958. The phone, a party-line, followed in 1962 and TV came in 1963 from Grande Prairie, Channel 10; black and white only. Number 2 highway was paved in 1963 and passed two hundred feet in front of our home. Traffic noise began to replace the songs of the birds!

From our union, Daniel was born in 1959, Robert in 1960, and Gabriel in 1961. I quit teaching for seven years to be with my little ones. Those were the best seven years of my life.

With the boys' future in mind, we expanded the farm purchasing eight other quarters from neighbors thus making our land holding in one block.

Our old house was sold in 1975 and replaced with a more spacious modular home. Cherished memories of the first home will linger forever because God blessed it with the birth of three fine sons and sanctified it with the death of my dear mother in 1975, who collapsed with a cardiac arrest upstairs near her grandsons. Tugging at our hearts are countless pleasant memories.

Raymond: n.01-04-1923 m.26-06-1954

Rita C. Turcotte: n.23-09-1924

CHILDREN:

1. Daniel: n.17-09-1959 m.03-12-1983 Lina Despins: n.18-12-1964
2. Robert: n.13-10-1960 m.30-07-1983 Viviane Charest: n.28-05-1962
 - a) Marc: n.06-01-1985
 - b) Luc: n.06-01-1985
3. Gabriel: n.27-11-1961

* * *

Raymond est né à Vegreville, AB. Il avait cinq ans lorsque ses parents, Aurèle et Della, déménagèrent à Donnelly. Lorsque son père acheta le magasin à Guy, Raymond charroya les provisions de Peace River avec un camion 1939 d'une tonne et demie. Il charroya aussi la gasoline en baril aux fermiers. En 1949 il travailla pour Raoul Lambert à charroyer du bois de Whitemud à Donnelly.

Rita est né à Prince Albert, Sask. Son père, Léonidas, est mort alors qu'elle avait treize mois. Elle est allée à l'école de campagne à Albertville et McKague, Sask. Rita déménagea à Guy en 1947 pour rejoindre sa mère, Wilhelmina. Elle enseigna à l'école Whiteland et c'est là qu'elle rencontra Raymond à une soirée sociale.

En 1949 Rita "file" sur le "homestead" E1/2-35-74-20-W5 et Raymond sur le "homestead" N1/2-26-74-20-W5. Raymond finit de bâtir une maison en 1954 du bois qu'il avait coupé et fait scier.

Avec les années, ils achetèrent huit quarts de terre et remplacèrent la maison en 1975.

BESSE FAMILY

by Thelma Rainville

Joseph F. Besse (Louis Besse's father) moved to Canada from Kankakee, Illinois, USA, in 1907 and settled in Langdon, Alberta. Joseph had four children with his first wife, who passed away. He then married Cordillia Lanoue who gave birth to



R.1 Vernet Côté, Leah Côté, Louis Besse. R.2 Léo (John), Walter, Clyde Besse.

six children. The family resided in Langdon for seven years. Then they moved to Howie, Alberta, in 1915 where two more children were born for a total of twelve children. Joseph Besse farmed in Howie, Alberta till 1936, the year of his 2nd wife's death.

In 1937 Louis Besse moved his father and four brothers to Falher on a farm seven miles south of town. Grandpa Besse cooked the meals with the help of his sons. His bread was considered by the family the best in the country. He never really liked it out here in the Peace. He stated that you could not see very far out on account of the amount of trees. Grandpa loved to look out across the prairies through binoculars for coyotes. In December, 1953, Joseph Besse entered the Whitelaw Home until his death January 10, 1954.

Louis Besse was in charge of the operation of the farm. Louis ran the farm with his four brothers until 1966 when he decided to sell the

farm to his two nephews Frank and Ray Besse and his brother Edgar.

In 1967 Louis, Fred & Leo moved to Whitemud Creek to live with their sister Vernet Cote (widow).

Louis was very active in the community and had many interests. He was director in the Falher Co-op, board member of the Seed Cleaning plant, member of the Church Council, Knights of Columbus, and a shareholder of Falher Holdings.

Louis and Leo Besse lived in Our Lady of the Lake Nursing Home in McLennan from 1983 to 1986 after their sister Vernet Cote died in June of 1983.

*Footnote; Louis Besse's home was known for its hospitality and generosity. The residents of the Whitemud district and all other residents of the surrounding area knew that they would always be invited to stay for a meal before they could move on.

* * *

Joseph T. Besse, le père de Louis Besse, vint au Canada de Kankakee en Illinois, E.U. en 1907 et s'établit à Langdon en Alberta. Joseph eut quatre enfants de sa première épouse. Après le décès de celle-ci, il épousa Cordillia Lanoue, qui donna naissance à six enfants. La famille résida à Langdon pendant sept ans; de là ils allèrent vivre à Howie, AB., en 1915 où deux autres enfants naquirent. Joseph fut fermier à Howie jusqu'en 1936, l'année du décès de sa deuxième épouse.

En 1937, Louis Besse amena son père et ses quatre frères sur une ferme à sept milles au sud de Falher. Louis, Edward, Walter, Alfred, Leo et Joseph, leur père, aménagèrent dans deux cabanes en bois rond; l'une servait de cuisine et l'autre de chambre à coucher. En 1944 Louis engagea Jos Lemire pour lui construire une maison qui est encore habitée. Derrière la maison se trouve un moulin à vent qui fournissait autrefois le pouvoir électrique.

Grand-papa Besse préparait les repas, ses fils aidant et ce jusqu'en 1953 alors qu'il s'en alla vivre au foyer de Whitelaw où il mourut le 10 janvier 1954.

Louis Besse avait la charge de la ferme qu'il cultiva avec ses quatre frères, jusqu'en 1966, alors qu'il la vendit à ses deux neveux, Frank et Ray Besse et à son frère Edgar.

En 1967, Louis, Fred et Léo s'en furent à Whitemud Creek pour vivre avec leur soeur veuve, Vernet Côté. Après le décès de celle-ci, en juin 1983, Louis et Léo Besse s'en allèrent vivre au foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan.



The five Besse Brothers in front of their home.

BESSE, EDGAR & SCOTT, ELSIE

by Elsie Besse

In November 1937, with great hopes, dreams and one child, Edgar, myself and baby (Frank) moved north, along with Grandpa (Joseph) Besse and sons and settled south of Falher. Imagine the closed-in feeling the Besses' had with all that bush, having come from the prairies.

Our first winter was spent seven miles south of Falher in a log house belonging to Jeanne and Henri Villeneuve, where our second child, Ray Joseph was born.

In the spring of 1938, we moved to Whitemud. We lived in a small log house belonging to Edgar's brother, Edward, who had moved north with the Coté families in 1934. An older brother George, had also taken up a homestead in Whitemud in 1934.

Everything was very primitive, no roads, no power, no telephone, all those things we take for



Edgar & Elsie Besse.

granted now. Surprising, there were people who had been living there many years.

The closest town was Falher many miles away. We travelled by horse and wagon. The river, Little Smoky, had to be forded; back then the river wasn't very dependable. It would rise overnight and then it was days before you could return.

We had no garden yet as land had to be cleared and worked. The neighbors were very generous and gave us what they could spare. Many times we drove miles to Forgies, Holders and Gardners, for vegetables and rhubarb. We had no milk for the kids, so Wallace Cote lent us a cow. We ran after her many times as she headed for home whenever she got loose.

There were no switches, thermostats or taps to turn on. To have a cup of coffee you cut wood, hauled water and then had your coffee, providing you could afford the coffee. Bread and such was baked in a wood stove; one became quite an expert, knowing just when to add more wood. A failure was a very costly thing, as flour was scarce. One failure I wasn't going to tell about but my son Frank said, "Tell it!". My bread turned out so tough and hard, my brother Ray tied a string around a loaf and led it over to Bill Cote's; he told them it was his new dog. They all had a good laugh and laughing is good for a person, so it wasn't quite such a bad failure.

Every year or two, English missionary women showed up in their van and visited among the people regardless of the different religious faiths. Their visits were very welcome as they brought in bags and boxes of clothing for everyone. I don't remember their names but do remember their good deeds.

In 1938 my brother Ray Scott moved to Whitemud to stay with us until he could find a homestead. A short while later they found some land. Ours was the SE-18-75-22-5. I don't remember the description of Ray's. Then they walked to Peace River, some 65 miles to file on them, only getting a ride the last five miles. They caught a ride back with Mr. Cloutier to Falher and then walked on home. All in all they were gone four days.

Ray was a good hunter and supplied us and many others with wild meat. Moose steak, venison roast, fried partridge were common food on our table. Sometimes Ray got a few dollars for a moose but mostly just an exchange of work. To this day I can't eat wild meat!

In the spring of 1939 our daughter Alice Myrtle was born. There was no money for baby things, so Ray went out to Edmonton to work and brought back several yards of flannelette, so

there I was sewing madly to have clothes for the baby soon to arrive. The nearest hospital was about 35 miles away at McLennan so most babies were born at home delivered by Leah and Ver-nette Côté, Edgar's sisters.

About this time a district nurse, Anne Nord-trop, was promised to the district if a house could be provided, so our logs were donated to build the dwelling for the nurse and we stayed on in that small log house. Poor Edward, I'm sure he wished many times, we'd go away and leave him by himself. Miss Nordtrop was a grand nurse and fitted into the district so well. We have much to be grateful to her for.



R.1 Jean & Alice. R.2 Frank, Ray Besse.

Another daughter, Jean Ellen arrived, with the help of the nurse. This made us four children and the little house was bulging with people.

By now Ray had built a cabin on his land and lived there, but turned up often with fresh meat, for which we were grateful.

In 1939 my older brother, Earl Scott, also moved into the Whitemud District, with his wife Edna and five children. Like the rest of us he had a very hard time to make ends meet. He took up a homestead and built a log house and barn. The children attended Smithreade School.

Later when we were provided with a ferry over the Smoky River he worked as ferryman. Later he joined the army as a military policeman. When the war ended he continued on as town police until his health failed. He passed away in March 1981 at Kenora, Ontario.

Both Edgar and Ray joined the armed forces. Edgar spent four years overseas as a gunner, and Ray became a bombardier in the airforce. Ray married an airforce girl, Stella Kent and returned home to Canada with an English bride and a small daughter. They now reside in British Columbia.

When Edgar returned in 1945 we moved into an improved farm seven miles south of Falher, where we resided until 1981. We retired to West-lock where Edgar passed away in 1982. I moved on to Wetaskiwin where I now reside. My family have all set up homes of their own in Alberta.

Edgar Besse; n. m. d.1982

Elsie Scott; n.

CHILDREN:

1. Frank; n.27-12-1935 m.21-10-1961
Alice Ankerstein (See Besse, Frank)
2. Ray; n.27-12-1937 m.25-08-1973 d.12-02-1981
Gisele Maisonneuve (See Besse, Ray)
3. Alice Myrtle; n.20-05-1939 d.15-05-1980
m.19-10-1962 John Harwood
 - a) Cynthia; n.01-02-1966
 - b) Jay Michael; n.02-05-1970
 They live in Camrose.
4. Jean Ellen; n.24-11-1940 m.29-06-1956
Leo Parenteau
 - a) Paula; n.14-01-1955
m. Byron Carson
 - b) Susanne; n.09-07-1956
m. Brian Lambright
 - c) Marie; n.20-05-1958
m. Gordon Aubin
 - d) David; n.11-10-1961
 - e) Joanne; n.26-09-1962
m. René Girard
 - f) Dianne; n.16-11-1965
 - g) Kevin; n.24-05-1972

Jean and Leo make their home in Peace River.

* * *

En novembre 1937, remplis d'espoir et de beaux rêves, Edgar, moi-même, Elsie, et notre bébé Frank déménagions dans le "Nord" avec grand-papa Joseph Besse et ses autres fils, Louis, Edward, Fred, Walter et Léo John. Tous s'établirent au sud de Falher.

Nous passions notre premier hiver à sept milles au sud de Falher dans une maison en bois

rond qui appartenait à Jeanne et Henri Villeneuve; c'est là que naquit notre deuxième bébé, Ray Joseph.

Au printemps 1938, nous déménagions à Whitemud.

En 1938, mon frère Ray Scott s'en vint vivre chez nous à Whitemud jusqu'à ce qu'il se trouve un "homestead".

Au printemps, notre fille Myrtle naissait; Leah et Vernetta Côté, les soeurs d'Edgar assistaient à la naissance.

C'est à peu près à ce temps-là qu'une infirmière vint s'établir dans la région. Une autre fille, Jean Ellen naissait chez nous, avec son aide.

En 1939, mon frère aîné, Earl Scott s'en vint aussi vivre à Whitemud avec sa femme, Edna, et cinq enfants. Comme nous tous il eut des difficultés à joindre les deux bouts. Il prit un "homestead", y construisit une maison en bois rond et une étable. Les enfants allaient à l'école Smithbreade.

Eventuellement quand un traversier fut construit sur la rivière Little Smoky, Earl en eut la charge. Pendant la guerre il fut policier dans l'armée. A la fin de la guerre, il fut encore policier jusqu'à sa retraite. Il mourut à Kenora, Ontario, en mars 1981.

Edgar Besse et Ray Scott s'enrôlèrent tous les deux dans les forces armées. Edgar passa quatre ans outremer dans l'artillerie et Ray fut bombardier dans l'aviation.

Après le retour d'Edgar en 1945 nous aménagions dans une meilleure ferme à sept milles au sud de Falher où nous sommes demeurés jusqu'en 1981. Nous prenions notre retraite à Westlock, AB., où Edgar est décédé en 1982. Je réside maintenant à Wetaskiwin. Tous mes enfants se sont établis en Alberta.

BESSE, FRANK & ANKERSTEIN, ALICE

by Alice and Gisele Besse

In 1961, Frank Besse, the eldest son of Edgar and Elsie (Scott), took for his bride one Alice Ankerstein of the Thorsby, AB area. After their marriage, they lived in Edmonton while Frank worked on a potato farm. Three of their four children, (Tanice, Michael, Beverly), were born during their stay in the provincial capital.

After living in the city for six years, Frank moved his family to the Guy area in April 1967. He bought Uncle Louis Besse's farm which he felt was a good chance for him and his family to get ahead.

Alice, used to city life, moved into a house formerly occupied by bachelors. There she found



R.1 Tanice, Beverly. R.2 Barry, Frank, Alice, Michael.

none of the modern conveniences she was accustomed to having. The house boasted a phone you had to ring by hand and which you shared a line with three other families. The most difficult part of adapting to this new area, was not knowing the French language. Living on a farm, the children had to learn to play together rather than with kids next door. Everyone soon got used to their new way of life – except that having three children didn't work out; one was always being left out. So, another member of the family seemed to be in order. Barry made his appearance in time for Christmas of 1968.

Frank soon got involved as a member of the Board of the Seed Cleaning Plant. When the children started school in Guy, Frank was part of the Preschool Committee. The boys eventually decided to play hockey, so the Besses did their share of driving hockey players to out-of-town games. At one point in time, all four children were involved in figure skating, so the arena was almost the family's second home. Since Frank was away to work most winters, Alice was chief driver! Like many women whose husbands go north to work, she was left with the job of keeping the home fires burning. Alice, along with Edith Lonfat, started up the Zip Stitchers, a 4-H Club in Guy.

Frank worked hard to make the farm a going concern. Along with his brother Ray, they planned for the future by creating a farm which was well-tended. Over the years, new machinery was purchased. A bigger tractor, a better combine and a more modern and efficient seed drill all helped to make farming easier and less time-consuming.

Their home place, surrounded by pine trees, was attractive and well-kept. Each spring, they

planted a large garden in back just near the raspberry patch. Both the garden and the patch produced well, but they were in need of constant attention in order to yield the maximum of produce. Alice's flower beds lent a quiet and colorful beauty to their farm yard.

The years went by quickly, each one seeing improvements on the farm and a change in the children as they grew into teenagers.

In late 1980, Frank and Ray decided to put the farm up for sale. Alice's health was becoming a problem and other factors made the decision to sell seem a wise one. In early 1981, with the sudden passing of Frank's brother and partner (Ray) the sale of the farm became inevitable. Frank stayed on to help the new owner, Harold White, with seeding that spring, but on July 1, 1981, the Frank Besse Family moved to a new home in Westaskiwin, Alberta. By this time, Tanice was studying at Grande Prairie Regional College, so she remained there but the other three children moved with their parents. Today, (1987), Tanice is co-ordinator of day care in Grande Prairie. Michael came back for his graduation from Routhier School in September 1981. Now he is working in oilfield construction. Beverly attended High School in Wetaskiwin and is planning to attend G.P. College in September. As for Barry, he has been accepted into the Columbia Academy of Broadcasting for July '87. While waiting for this, he works at a local radio station.

Frank is now working at three different jobs. In the spring he works on a farm twelve miles from Wetaskiwin. From June until November he's a crew chief for Alberta Hail & Crop Insurance. During the winter months, he is busy as a drill push for Denham Drilling, the company he worked for in the 1970's. As for Alice, she is working as a banquet supervisor for a local inn.

Frank Besse; n.27-12-1935 m.21-10-1961

Alice Ankerstein; n.24-05-1941

CHILDREN:

1. Tanice; n.23-08-1962
2. Michael; n.09-11-1963
3. Beverly; n.26-03-1966
4. Barry; n.24-12-1968

* * *

En 1961, Frank Besse, fils aîné d'Edgar et Elsie (Scott) épousait Alice Ankerstein de la région de Thorsby, Alberta. Ils vécurent à Edmonton pour un temps, où Frank travaillait à la culture des pommes de terre. Trois de leur quatre enfants naissaient en ce temps-là.

Après six années passées en ville, Frank amenait sa famille dans la région de Guy, en

avril 1967. Il acheta la ferme de son oncle Louis, où il prévoyait un bon avenir. Il devint membre du Conseil du "Seed Cleaning Plant", membre de l'exécutif de la maternelle à Guy. Alice organisa le Club 4H – les "Zip Stitchers" avec Edith Lonfat.

Frank travailla pour le succès de sa ferme. Lui et son frère Ray avaient de beaux plans pour l'avenir d'une ferme qui rapporterait de bons profits.

Au fil des ans ils se procurèrent de bonnes machines aratoires. Leur cour attrayante était entourée de sapins et à chaque printemps ils semaient un grand jardin tout à côté des framboisiers.

En 1980, on decida de vendre la terre. L'état de santé d'Alice laissait à désirer, et d'autres problèmes s'accrurent. Le premier juillet 1981, la famille s'en alla vivre à Westaskiwin, Alberta.

BESSE, RAY JOSEPH MAISONNEUVE, GISELE

by Gisele Maisonneuve

Ray Joseph Besse was born to Edgar and Elsie (Scott) on their farm seven miles south of Falher. Because his early childhood coincided with World War II, Ray, his mom and his brother Frank moved to Edmonton to live near Elsie's mother, while Edgar was overseas serving his country.

At six years of age, Ray started school at Jasper Place Elementary School in Edmonton. His experience there was not a long one, for midway through his first grade, he contracted rheumatic fever; he had to leave school in order to recover. Shortly thereafter, his mom moved back to the farm in order to keep house for Edgar's father and brothers. Once his recovery was assured, Ray returned to school, this time attending Ballater North where his first teacher was Miss Boehm. Though he liked school, there was one passion which far outweighed his desire to stay cooped up in a classroom. This passion was for farming! His teachers often said that during seeding and harvesting seasons, Ray might as well have been out there working on the machinery, for that is where his heart and his mind were at the time.

As a teenager, he took advantage of every opportunity to work in the fields with his dad and his uncle Louis. Ray also spent a lot of time dismantling and rebuilding an old truck with the help of his buddies Emile Lacoursière and Cliff Merchant. Like all teenagers, he enjoyed going to the local dances, hockey games and house parties.



Ray, Gisèle & Danielle.

Ray was always a home oriented person, though. Mostly he liked nothing better than spending time at home, visiting there with the friends and neighbors who dropped in. Going for coffee at the neighbors was often on his daily agenda, especially during the winter months when there was not much to do on the farm. All his life, he was known as Uncle Ray, not only to his own nieces and nephews, but to their friends as well. In the Besse family, there was no better babysitter than kind-hearted Uncle Ray.

By the time he turned thirty-five years of age, nearly everyone had lost hope that he would ever marry. But, in the summer of 1972 he met Gisèle Maisonneuve. During that late fall and winter, he spent much time travelling to Edmonton where Gisèle was attending university. By November, they were engaged and in August they were married in the Sacred Heart Church in Donnelly. Many of his friends and neighbors attended the wedding "with bells on," as they put it, because they were so pleased that the "confirmed bachelor" had finally decided to tie the knot. Ray's life-long friend, Cliff Merchant, served as his best man.

Ray and Gisèle bought a trailer which they installed in Edgar and Elsie's yard. They lived there for a little over a year. Later they moved the trailer to their own quarter just half a mile south. (Location of Ballater North School). There, they built an addition, painted, dug a septic tank and cistern, had the power brought in by the Guy R.E.A., and generally worked toward creating their own "home place".

In 1976, their daughter Danielle was born at the University Hospital in Edmonton. Due to complications, Ray and Gisèle were there for nearly two months before the baby was born. After having spent that much time away from home, they were very happy to return to the farm where they introduced Danielle to her proud grandparents and to her doting aunts and uncles.

Meanwhile, life was good! Ray farmed with his dad and his brother Frank. Eventually Ray's dad retired from farming and so Besse Brothers came to be. The boys worked together to build up the machinery and the acreage and to keep in good order the quarters they had bought from Edgar and Uncle Louis. A machine shed was built, old granaries torn down and new ones installed, a grain dryer purchased and an auger bin took its place in the farmyard. Because Frank's yard was the original farm site built by Uncle Louis, that is where most of the farming activities such as machinery maintenance, grain drying and storing took place. At one point in their farming career, the entire yard was nearly engulfed by fire, but fortunately all was saved.

Having always loved children, even before his own was born, Ray truly enjoyed taking care of his daughter during the winters while Gisèle worked as librarian at Georges P. Vanier School in Donnelly. In the spring and the fall, when farming activities became top priority, Danielle went off to the daycare centre in Falher, an experience she truly enjoyed. But, when winter came along once again, she was delighted to stay home with her dad, who after all was her favorite toy.

In late 1980, Ray and Frank decided to put the farm up for sale. Both families eagerly made plans for their move to a new way of life. Before the sale of the farm was ever realized, Ray passed away in early 1981. Eventually, the farm was sold and so Gisèle and Danielle moved into Donnelly.

Ray died at home, on his farm, the place he loved the best. The legacy he left behind was one of patience and kindness.

Ray Joseph Besse; n.27-12-1937 m.25-08-1973 d.12-02-1981 Gisèle Maisonneuve;

CHILDREN:

1. Danielle; n.29-03-1976

* * *

Fils d'Edgar et Elsie (Scott) Besse, Ray naissait sur leur ferme, à sept milles au sud de Falher. La deuxième guerre eut lieu durant sa jeunesse, et alors sa mère et son frère Frank s'en furent allés vivre à Edmonton avec la mère

d'Elsie, pendant qu'Edgar se battait outremer pour sa patrie.

Elsie revenait à la ferme pour diriger la maison pour son beau-père et ses beaux-frères. Ray fréquenta l'école Ballater # 1 où Miss Boehm fut sa première institutrice. Il préférerait de beaucoup le travail de la ferme avec son père que la classe.

Alors qu'il avait trente-cinq ans il rencontra Gisèle Maisonneuve, fille de Lucien et Irene Gauthier alors qu'elle était étudiante à l'Université de l'Alberta à Edmonton en 1972. Ils se fiancèrent en novembre et en août s'épousèrent à l'église du Sacré Coeur à Donnelly.

Au début Ray et Gisèle s'établirent pendant un an dans une maison mobile dans la cour des parents de Ray puis ils déménagèrent sur leur propre terre à un demi mille au sud. Ils installèrent l'eau courante, le pouvoir électrique et agrandirent leur logis.

Leur fille, Danielle, naissait à l'hôpital de l'Université à Edmonton.

La vie était agréable. Ray travaillait à la ferme avec son père et Frank. En 1980 Ray et Frank décidèrent de vendre la ferme. Chacun opta pour un autre genre de vie. Avant que le marché ne fut conclu, Ray mourut en 1981. Par la suite Gisèle et Danielle s'en furent vivre à Donnelly.

BISSON, GERARD RAYMOND & MAY, JESSIE

par Raymond

Raymond Bisson est né le 6 janvier 1937, à Palmarolle en Abitibi, P.Q. Il est le treizième d'une famille de quatorze enfants. Il arrive dans l'Ouest avec ses parents à l'âge de sept ans. Vu la distance de l'école, il passe deux ans à la mission de St-Augustin, Peace River, avec trois soeurs aînées. Avec l'ouverture de la première école à Guy en 1947, avec M. l'Abbé Claude de Champlain comme professeur, il poursuit ses études là. La neuvième année jusqu'à la douzième sont passées au Collège Notre Dame de La Paix à Falher. Ensuite il prend un cour d'agriculture d'un an à l'Institut Agricole d'Oka, P.Q. De retour il travaille sur la ferme avec son père.

En 1960 il quitte la ferme pour travailler à Fort Smith, T.N.O. comme gérant du bureau pour le département des Travaux Publics.

En 1964 il revient et achète la ferme paternelle l'année suivante. Il cultive l'été et devient chauffeur de camion tous les hivers.

En 1970-71 il est engagé comme expéditeur par Amoco Petroleum pour travailler sur leurs avions entre Calgary-Fort Nelson et Norman Wells.



Jessie et Raymond Bisson.

En 1971 il marie Jessie E. May. Un enfant Patrick Wade, est né le 3 février 1975 et ils adoptent le 2 juillet 1977 Syndy Nellie Ann née le 16-06-1977.

Ils font l'élevage d'un troupeau de cent vaches tout en cultivant neuf quarts de terre.

De plus Raymond entreprend le commerce de bois de construction sur sa ferme, et d'un camion pour faire le charroiyage général.

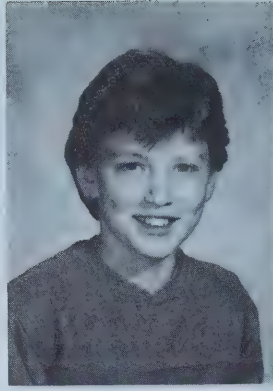
Vu la baisse des prix et une économie stagnante, les animaux sont graduellement vendus. Raymond demeure encore sur la ferme paternelle.

Raymond Bisson: n. 06-01-1937 m. 31-07-1971
Jessie E. May: n. 29-06-1942

ENFANTS:

1- Patrick Wade: n. 03-02-1975

2- Syndy Nellie Ann: N. 16-06-1977 (adopté)



Syndy & Patrick.

* * *

Raymond came from Abitibi, P.Q. with his family in 1944, to settle in Guy. He was then seven years old. He attended school in St. Augustin Mission, in Peace River for two years. By then, a school was opened in Guy, in 1947 and Raymond was able to continue his schooling, while living at home. Then he went to College in Falher, then to an Agricultural School in P.Q. for one year. He worked in the North West Territories until he bought his father's farm in 1964. He cultivated the farm in summer and went trucking in winter.

In 1971 he married Jessie E. May. A son was born in 1975 and a daughter was adopted in 1977. He is still living on the farm in Guy.

BISSON, PAUL & FORTIER, PAULETTE

Paul raconte

Paul, fils de Wilfrid, est né à Notre Dame des Pins, Beauce, P.Q.

En 1943, mon père, mon oncle Eugène et moi âgé de 15 ans avons été travailler à Dawson Creek, C.B. sur la route de l'Alaska. Nous avons quitté ce travail pour revenir à Guy sur le terrain "homestead" "que mon père avait pris en 1942. Nous avons fait les obligations sur N^o 6-76-20 et avons travaillé au chantier McRae durant l'hiver. En juin 1944 papa est allé chercher la famille, qui demeurait à Palmarolle, P.Q. Je suis demeuré à Guy à l'attendre. (Mon oncle Eugène nous aidait mais en même temps, l'hiver, il travaillait comme commis pour différentes compagnies forestières car il était bilingue. Enfin, il passa les dernières années de sa vie à Falher (comptable pour la C.C.I.L.) Il est décédé le 24 février 1976.)

Pour moi, tout en travaillant avec mon père, j'ai pris un "homestead" puis j'ai acheté le



R.1 Suzanne, Paulette, Carole R.2 Robert, Paul, Richard.

terrain voisin appartenant à W. Saulnier. Ensuite, j'achetai deux terres (dont l'une du Dr. Wood et l'autre qui était retournée au Ministère des Terres et Forêts. Ces deux terres faisaient partie du Smoky River Industries Ltd et n'avaient que quelques acres de défrichés. Par après, j'ai acquis les terrains de MM. André et Jean Sicard. Au début des années 1950, la famille Bisson acheta un tracteur à chenilles (D.4 Cat) ce qui permit d'ouvrir un millier d'acres et plus à l'est de Guy et de chez moi.

Ce tracteur servit à ouvrir le chemin afin de pouvoir se rendre sur les terrains et aussi à la construction de chemins dans la région. En 1950, la famille acheta sa première moissonneuse-batteuse.

Mon frère, Fernand, et moi ayant fait l'achat d'un moulin à scie avons entrepris le commerce du bois. Par la suite, nous avons pris des contrats pour charroyer un produit chimique employé dans le forage de puits d'huile. Paul Bisson; n.03-03-1928 m.11-05-1963 Paulette Fortier; n.28-08-1942

ENFANTS:

1. Robert; n.07-02-1964
2. Richard; n.19-09-1965 m.02-08-1986
- Lise Charest; n.12-08-1967*
3. Suzanne; n.30-12-1966
4. Carole; n.24-06-1969

* * *

Paul, son of Wilfrid, was born at Notre Dame des Pins, (Beauce) P.Q.

In 1943, he went to work on the Alaska Highway at Dawson Creek with his father and uncle Eugene. As his father then settled in Guy, Paul also took a homestead lease and bought land next to it which belonged to W. Saulniers. This transaction was a verbal agreement. Once the improvements done, Mr. Saulniers would get the title

and sell the land to Paul. Later on, Paul added four more quarters to his holdings. In 1950, Paul, his father, and his brothers opened a thousand acres of land with a D4 Cat. The Cat was often used for road construction. Paul and his brother Fernand started a sawmill, selling lumber. Later on, they contracted with oil companies to haul mud, a drilling compound.

BISSON, WILFRID & MERCIER, YVONNE

par la famille

Wilfrid Bisson est né dans la paroisse St-François (Beauceville), province de Québec, le 10 mai 1900. Le 4 mai 1920 il épousa Yvonne Mercier, née le 2 février 1902. Ils s'établirent sur une terre voisine de son père, sur laquelle il y avait beaucoup de roches.

Tout en cultivant ce terrain, il gardait toujours le désir d'avoir une plus grande ferme et spécialement une sans roches.

A cet effet, il fit deux voyages dans l'Ouest en 1928 et en 1932 avec les Excursions des Moissonneurs. En 1928, il fit les récoltes à Hoey, Saskatchewan et en 1932, il fit les semences à Vimy chez un M. Provost. Il revint chez lui pour recommencer à faire ses propres semailles sur un terrain rocailleux.



Famille Wilfrid Bisson: R.1 Louisa, Irène, Edwidge, M. et Mme Bisson, Germaine, Jacqueline, Evelyne. R.2 Lorraine, Paul, Fernand, Fernande, Raymond, Marie-Laure.

Comme c'était en pleine période de crise économique, il retarda son départ jusqu'en juin 1935 pour déménager à Palmarolle, Abitibi, au nord ouest du Québec. Il prit un "homestead" du gouvernement et défricha 200 acres à la main. Mais la température pluvieuse et plutôt froide et la saison très courte de croissance, le décida d'essayer encore une fois de se déplacer vers l'Ouest. Ce qu'il fit en l'année 1943 lorsqu'il

arriva à Donnelly accompagné de son fils, Paul, alors âgé de 15 ans. Il prit un "lease" à 10 milles au sud, ce qui est aujourd'hui à un mille du village de Guy.

Il commença immédiatement à défricher cette terre et revint à Palmarolle chercher sa famille qui arriva à Guy en juillet 1944. Il laissait trois filles à La Sarre, P.Q. car qu'il n'y aurait pas de travail pour celles-ci. Il avait en même temps rempli un char avec le ménage et les matériaux nécessaires à la construction de la maison pour abriter sa famille sur son nouveau "homestead".

L'Abbé Paul Gagnon était le curé résident de la paroisse. Les écoles étaient plutôt éloignées alors quatre des enfants allèrent à la Mission St-Augustin de septembre 1944 à juin 1946 (soit 2 années scolaires). Entretemps avec l'aide du curé et de quelques paroissiens, il s'occupa activement à obtenir des religieuses des Soeurs de Ste-Croix pour l'ouverture de deux salles de classes à Guy. Ensuite il s'occupa de l'organisation et participa financièrement à la construction du couvent pour la résidence des Soeurs et de dortoirs pour les élèves éloignés. (Ils arrivaient avec la nourriture pour la semaine).



Départ de Rouyn, P.Q., pour Guy de la famille Wilfrid Bisson. R.1 Jacqueline, Raymond. R.2 Evelyne, Louisa, Fernand, Fernande. R.3 Marie-Laure, Bébé Lorraine, Yvonne, Wilfrid.

Il fut marguillier de la paroisse pour plusieurs années ainsi que commissaire pour les écoles.

Durant ce temps, Yvonne toujours occupée à la besogne de la maison et au soin de sa nombreuse famille trouva quand même le temps de se dévouer dans les oeuvres paroissiales soit dans la direction ou dans l'aide sous l'égide des Dames de Ste-Anne, Cercle de Fermières, mouvement d'action catholique ou social. Elle aida pendant plusieurs années à l'organisation des bazars, bingos et des pique-niques paroissiaux afin de ramasser des fonds pour l'administration de la paroisse (église et presbytère) et du couvent.

Pendant toutes ces années, Wilfrid et les garçons s'occupaient vigoureusement à défricher le terrain en location ainsi que ceux pris par ses enfants, garçons comme filles. Pendant les premières années, il s'occupa d'un rucher afin de suppléer aux revenus et subvenir aux dépenses du défrichement et de l'achat de machineries.

Comme le curé n'avait pas de ménagère, quand il venait des visiteurs, il les amenait à la maison pour un repas familial. Beaucoup de jeunes gens venus de l'Est se sont hébergés chez lui en attendant de trouver du travail dans la région.



Maison de M. et Mme Wilfrid Bisson presque finie en avril 1945.

Quelques uns d'entre eux se sont établis dans la région. Avec la coopération des garçons et l'aide des filles chacun selon sa capacité, la famille Bisson a ouvert au moins 2500 acres à l'est de Guy. Wilfrid était toujours prêt à aider les voisins, il croyait à l'entraide.

Même si Wilfrid était très occupé à défricher et à cultiver, il ne perdit jamais de vue l'amélio-

ration de la communauté tant au point de vue religieux, que scolaire et social; il participa activement aux organisations économiques et financières. Il fut sur le comité de la Caisse Populaire de Guy et ensuite il fut l'un des premiers fondateurs de la Société d'Etablissement Rural de Girouxville (Carda) et en fut longtemps un directeur. Il supporta les mouvements coopératifs de la région en étant un membre actif de Falher Coop, Alta Wheat Pool, Alta Seeds Growers.

Il recommença deux fois à défricher et ouvrir un domaine mais ceci ne l'empêcha pas de s'occuper du bien-être de sa famille et de donner à tous ses enfants une instruction selon leur aptitude et les possibilités du temps. Wilfrid et Yvonne ont eu 14 enfants.

Wilfrid Bisson: n. 10-05-1900 m. 04-05-1920 d. 11-10-1971

Yvonne Mercier: n. 02-02-1902 d. 02-02-1977

ENFANTS:

- 1) Alexandre: n. 09-02-1921 d. 12-05-1922
- 2) Edwidge: n. 02-04-1922 (institutrice, retirée à Falher) m. 02-07-1945
Gabriel Noël (voir Noël, Gabriel)
- 3) Germaine: n. 10-10-1923 m. 27-12-1949 (institutrice, retirée à Edmonton)
Georges Cartier: d. 26-01-1965
a) Carmen (dentiste à Vancouver)
- 4) Irène: n. 17-06-1925 m. 10-06-1953 (Institut Familial. Elle gère un motel "Travelodge" à Seattle)
Roger Paiement:
Ils ont eu quatre enfants: Raymond (B.F.), Lise et Lyne (jumelle) et Doreen.
- 5) Marie-Laure: n. 27-08-1926 m. 29-08-1950 (coiffeuse et experte en décorations de gâteaux)
Placide Gervais:
Ils ont eu trois enfants: Donald, Michel (musicien, également compositeur et chef d'orchestre) et Victor
- 6) Paul Eugène: n. 03-03-1928 m. 11-05-1963 (fermier à Guy)
Paulette Fortier (voir Bisson, Paul)
- 7) Louis-Patrice: n. 17-07-1929 d. 20-04-1931
- 8) Fernand: n. 14-03-1931 (retiré; demeure à Edmonton)
- 9) Fernande: n. 14-03-1931 m. 07-05-1955 (Institut Familial, Edmonton) Johnny Campbell: d. 25-11-1963 Ils ont eu deux enfants: Normand et Gisèle.
- 10) Jacqueline: n. 04-07-1932 (B.A., B. Ed. bilingue ayant aussi un degré d'un Institut Familial affilié à l'Université de Montréal)

- 11) *Evelyne: n. 04-07-1932 m. 29-12-1959 (B.A., B.Ed., M.Sc.) Personal Human Development Counselling and Education Service et conseillère de la ville de Winnipeg.*

Georges Reese

Ils ont eu quatre enfants: Barry, Maryline, Martin et Carol-Ann et ont adopté un garçon.

- 12) *Louisa: n. 16-05-1934 m. 29-12-1959 (infirmière, New Westminster)*

Roland Lacasse

Ils ont eu trois enfants: Jobanne, Claudette et Linda

- 13) *Raymond: n. 06-01-1937 m. 31-07-1971 (fermier à Guy)*

Jessie May (voir Bisson, Raymond)

- 14) *Lorraine: n. 23-07-1942 m. 12-08-1967 (B.Ed., Institutrice bilingue, musicienne, Nipawin, Man.)*

Walter Nyuli

Ils ont eu 4 enfants: Warren, Natasha et deux décédés à la naissance.

Après avoir oeuvré de 1943 à 1967, il vendit une partie de sa ferme à son fils cadet, Raymond, lequel prit la relève sur la ferme familiale. Il déménagea à Edmonton afin d'être proche des spécialistes à cause de la santé fragile d'Yvonne, sa chère épouse. Pour quelques années il passait encore quelques mois à Guy au cours de l'été pour cultiver les terrains qui lui restaient.

Il fêtèrent leurs noces d'Or en juillet 1970 entourés de leurs enfants et petits-enfants à Edmonton.

Il est décédé subitement à Winnipeg à son retour d'un voyage dans l'Est où il était allé visiter toute sa famille et ses amis. Il eut une vie bien remplie au service de la communauté, de sa famille et de confiance en la Providence.

Yvonne alors demeura chez ses filles et elle est décédée à Edmonton après quatre mois d'hospitalisation, le 2 février 1977.

Ils ont tous les deux laissé un héritage de courage, de générosité et de confiance en Dieu.

* * *

After attempting to farm in Quebec, on rocky land, with short rainy summer seasons, Wilfrid decided to move to Western Canada. With his fifteen year old son Paul, he arrived in Donnelly in 1943. He leased some land ten miles south – 1 mile from the hamlet of Guy. He immediately set out to clear this land then returned to Palmarolle in Quebec to fetch his family, arriving at Guy in

July 1944. With the family came a carload of furniture and some building materials for a new house.

Father Paul Gagnon was the resident parish priest at the time. The schools being too far away, four of the children were boarders at St-Augustin's Mission from 1944 to 1946.

Meanwhile with the parish priest and a few other parishioners, Wilfrid succeeded in having the Sisters of Holy Cross open a two room school in Guy. He then helped to construct a convent as residence for the sisters and for students who lived far away. They brought their food for the week. He was a church warden and school trustee for many years.

At that time, Yvonne, always busy with housework and tending to her many children, still found time to devote to parish organizations with the Ladies of Ste-Anne, the Catholic Action Movement and the "Cercle des Fermières". She also helped with bazaars, bingos and parish picnics in order to help raise funds for the parish and the convent.

Throughout these years, Wilfrid and his sons worked at clearing his land, and those of his children. He also had an apiary which helped financially in the expenses incurred in clearing land and in the purchase of farm machinery.

With the sons' and daughters' help the Bisson family succeeded in clearing at least 2500 acres east of Guy.

Wilfrid was always willing to give a helping hand to a neighbour in need. As busy as he was on his land, he still gave of this time for the betterment of his fellowmen be it in the church, the school, or for social events. He was active in most of the organizations in the area.

He did not fail, despite everything, to look after his family's welfare and each of his children received a good education according to his or her aptitudes.

Wilfrid and Yvonne raised twelve children; nine girls and three boys.

Having farmed until 1967, Wilfrid sold part of his land to his youngest son, Raymond. He then moved to Edmonton because of his wife, Yvonne's ill health. For several years he came back to Guy in the summer months to work on the land that he had kept.

In 1970, Wilfrid and Yvonne celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with their children and grandchildren.

On his way back from a trip in Eastern Canada, he died suddenly in Winnipeg on October 11, 1971, after having lived a full life, tending

to his family's needs and the community and with a strong belief in Divine Providence.

After his death, Yvonne lived with her daughters and she died in Edmonton February 2, 1977 after a long illness.

Both, Wilfrid and Yvonne have left a legacy of courage, generosity and faith in God.

BLAIS, ROSARIO & LAFLEUR, MARIE ANNE

par Marie Anne

Rosario Blais naquit à St-Philémon, Comté de Bellechasse, P.Q. le 20 février 1910; il était le fils de Georges Blais et Joséphine Théberge.

Son épouse, Marie-Anne, native de l'Ascension Comté Labelle, P.Q., née le 8 octobre 1918, était la fille de Moïse Lafleur et Emilia Legault.

Quoique tous deux enfants du Québec, c'est en Ontario qu'ils se connurent. En l'année 1928, Moïse Lafleur allait s'établir avec sa famille à Opasatika, une très petite paroisse canadienne française située dans la forêt dense du nord ontarien. Il s'y était rendu pour travailler comme bûcheron à l'abattage des bois de pulpe, à l'époque où les immenses forêts de la région se rasaient pour alimenter les manufactures de papier de la compagnie "Spruce-Falls" de Kapuskasing, Ontario. A la même époque et pour les mêmes raisons Rosario Blais, célibataire, s'amenait dans cette région et devenait le voisin de la famille Lafleur.

Après quelques années assez prospères le commerce du bois s'effondra avec la venue de la

dépression mondiale; les bûcherons du nord Ontarien perdaient du coup leur unique gagne-pain et se voyaient contraints à demeurer sur place, au beau milieu de leurs abattis, dans les décombres de la forêt déchiquetée, sans revenue, dans ce coin ingrat du pays au terrain marécageux, presque inculte et au climat d'une rigueur sauvage. La vie leur fut rude et ils durent recourir à beaucoup d'initiative pour parvenir à se procurer péniblement une maigre subsistance pendant les années de pénurie qui suivirent.

Le 27 mai, 1937 (date facile à retenir car c'était le jour du couronnement du roi George VI) dans la petite église de leur village, Rosario et Marie-Anne échangeaient les vœux solennels, les serments qui les ont unis pour la vie.

Année 1943. Leur foyer s'était enrichi de quatre beaux enfants mais malgré les labeurs ardues la prospérité s'avérait toujours inconnue. Tous deux amants fervents de la nature, et peu aventuriers ils durent cependant se contraindre à chercher à se forger ailleurs un destin plus avantageux. Le secteur de l'agriculture leur offrait la possibilité de se façonner un avenir plus favorable à l'établissement d'une famille sans rompre les liens qui les attachaient à la nature.

Septembre 1943, répondant à l'appel de la terre, ils prennent la grave décision de se joindre à un groupe de cinq familles de la paroisse qui, déterminées à améliorer leur existence, s'aventurent à émigrer vers le grand et lointain Ouest canadien pour s'y établir en colonisateurs.

Trente-cinq personnes en tout dont vingt-quatre enfants se mettaient en route, voyageant dans un wagon roulant à l'arrière d'un train sur la voie ferrée du Canadien National; un second wagon transportait les mobiliers strictement nécessaires à l'installation des familles une fois arrivées dans la région de Rivière à la Paix en Alberta.



R.1 Chantal Gagné, Rosario, Marie Anne, Jeannine, Lise Larsen. R.2 Claude, Pierre, Guy, Daniel, Paul, Hervé, Denis.



R.1 Chantal Gagné, Rosario, Marie Anne, Jeannine, Lise Larsen. R.2 Claude, Pierre, Guy, Daniel, Paul, Hervé, Denis.

Au rythme du roulement sur les rails se berçaient leurs espoirs, mais sans illusions, leurs expériences de la vie leur disaient que cette terre promise, elle leur serait généreuse d'autant qu'ils la payeraient de leurs sueurs. Mais comme il faisait bon rêver pour atténuer les amertumes du départ et les incertitudes que contenait l'inconnu. Sous la sauvegarde de Dieu et dans les liens fraternels et amicaux qui unissaient le groupe ils puisaient du courage.

Le 3 octobre 1943, un dimanche, arrivés au terme de leur voyage ils mettaient pied sur le sol Albertain à Guy, chez M. Aurèle Benoit où les braves gens de la petite paroisse s'étaient rassemblés pour souhaiter une chaleureuse bienvenue à ce groupe de colonisateurs qui venaient d'un coup accroître leurs rangs.

Ils arrivaient au pays par un jour magnifique. La campagne se faisait paisible, la brise matinale d'automne était fraîche et sèche et du sol émanait l'arôme des moissons qui n'étaient pas encore terminées. Sur de grands champs ouverts de nombreux épis abandonnés jonchaient le sol, abandonnés, témoignage de la richesse du sol de leur nouvelle patrie.

Ce fut un dimanche mémorable! Toute cette assemblée de gens groupés autour de leur pasteur, l'abbé Paul Gagnon, s'unissaient pour la célébration de la messe dominicale dans ce foyer si hospitalier. Tous se joignirent aux nouveaux venus pour rendre grâce au Seigneur de sa Divine protection qui les avait guidés sans heurt au bout de leur long trajet.

Les dévotions terminées tous prenaient part à un succulent repas, servi par les dames de la paroisse. Ce repas fut très apprécié surtout des voyageurs. Certains d'entre eux défailaient d'épuisement et d'émotion. La journée se passa

à nouer des connaissances et à observer l'environnement. Le soir venu, le gîte était offert à chaque famille dans des foyers généreux où ils étaient accueillis à bras ouverts.

La tombée du jour voyait la famille Blais installée chez Mr. Ernest Gosselin. A son arrivée Rosario Blais avait eu l'agréable surprise de retrouver en Ernest Gosselin un cousin perdu de vue depuis plusieurs années.

Le premier hiver passé au pays fut d'une température exceptionnellement douce. Une mince couche de neige s'amena tout juste à point pour fêter Noël. Rosario partit tôt pour les chantiers et la famille s'abrita dans une maisonnette fraîchement renouée, située dans la cour de M. Gosselin où l'eau potable était disponible. Le 27 janvier de cet hiver, un cinquième enfant venait égayer le foyer, un garçon, Claude.

Puis s'amena le printemps si impatiemment attendu. Ils firent l'acquisition d'un terrain, le "homestead" de Monsieur Emile Johnson (père) situé "Township 76, range 21, north est. 12" Et dans ce grand pays de lumière et de soleil ils se mirent allègrement à la tâche. Le premier obstacle à conquérir était de s'approvisionner d'eau.

Ce précieux liquide qu'on avait toujours tenu pour acquis, ici il fallait le charroyer sur un trajet de plusieurs milles avec des chevaux; il fallait se creuser une "pond", petit étang artificiel dans la perspective d'y recueillir et d'y conserver l'eau de la fonte des neiges du printemps. De plus il fallait se bâtir une glacière pour la conservation des carreaux de glace coupés sur la rivière "Smoky" gelée durant l'hiver. Et puis il fallait défricher, "grubber", mettre la main à la charrue etc...

Le 15 janvier 1946, un sixième enfant un fils, Hervé naissait. Au printemps de la même année dans le but de se rapprocher des services médicaux et espérant que cela serait plus propice pour l'éducation de ses enfants, Rosario décide de s'établir à Donnelly où le système scolaire était mieux établi. Il vend donc son terrain au Dr. Bouilly, nouvellement venu à Guy, achète une terre à Donnelly et se livre à l'agriculture jusqu'en 1976 où l'un de ses garçons, Claude, prend la relève sur la ferme familiale. Ensuite Rosario adhéra au travail journalier qu'il trouvait plus rémunérateur. Jusqu'à sa retraite en 1977, il occupa le poste de concierge de l'école "Prairie River" à High Prairie, Alberta.

Puis, retraités ils sont revenus au bercail au lieu qui les avait si bien accueillis, à Guy. Entourés de leur grande famille, onze enfants dont huit garçons. Vingt-neuf petits enfants, et



Départ d'Opasatika, Ont., pour la région de Peace River spécifiquement pour Guy, AB., en 1943. Les familles Fortunat et Amanda Lachance avec 11 enfants, Léopold et Angéline Lafleur et 6 enfants, Rosario et Marie Anne Blais avec 4 enfants, Moïse et Emilia Lafleur et 2 enfants, Armand et Aurore Gagné et 5 enfants. M. Gagné était l'organisateur de l'excursion.

sept arrières petits enfants, leur vie n'a rien de monotone. Agé de soixante-dix sept ans maintenant, Rosario s'adonne toujours à ses métiers favoris, la chasse et la trappe. Quand les fermiers des environs ont des ennuis avec les castors qui abondent encore à certains endroits, ils ont recours au talent de trappeur de Rosario pour les tirer d'embarras.

Marie-Anne Blais nous livre quelques pensées.

Bien que les nécessités de la vie m'en aient éloignée, Guy fut l'endroit où je m'étais profondément enracinée. Ce lieu a toujours eu pour moi un certain charme attirant et après une vie mouvementée parfois même chaotique, j'y suis revenue ayant grand besoin de me retremper dans la vie pastorale. Il y a un tas de choses merveilleuses à découvrir ici. Les grands champs à l'époque de la pleine floraison qui offrent leurs parfums, leurs parures, sont un des présents sensationnels de la nature.

Ici dans ce petit hameau, quasi-solitaire, blotti tout près du sanctuaire dont la voix de bronze vibrant dans la campagne nous rappelle à la ferveur, on peut se recréer dans le calme: Comme j'admire mon fier clocher majestueux monument à notre foi qui se détache en relief dans le ciel de feu des crépuscules. Il m'inspire un profond respect pour la grandeur du Divin Créateur.

Guy c'est un séjour sans pareil sous le soleil, c'est mon "chez nous".

Rosario Blais: n. 20-02-1910 m. 12-05-1937

Marie-Anne Lafleur: n. 08-10-1918

Enfants:

1. Georges: n. 02-03-1938 m. 14-04-1958
d. 17-01-1987
Annette Simoneau: fille de Albert and Aldiana Richer
a) Simone: n. -03-1959
b) Michel: n. -06-1960
c) Richard: n. 28-07-1961
d) Lucille: n. 27-05-1963
e) Suzanne: n. 26-07-1967
2. Guillaume: n. 05-12-1939 m. 03-07-1965
Carole Caudron:
a) Leslie
b) Timothy
3. Lisette: n. 08-04-1941 m.
Barnie Larsen:
a) Sandra Lee
b) Branda Lee
4. Pierre: n. 25-05-1942 m.
Jeannette Bédard
a) Roger

5. Claude: n. 27-01-1944 m.

Gertrude Bédard

- a) RoseMarie
- b) Lorraine
- c) Normand
- d) Dean

6. Hervé: n. 15-01-1946 m.

Sandra Peterson

- a) Susanna
- b) Thérèse
- 2m. Diane Smith
- a) Caroline

7. Denis: n. 18-07-1947 m.

Gloria Gullion

- a) Dwayne
- b) Nicole

8. Chantal: n. 27-09-1952 m.

Denis Gagné

- a) Daniel: n. 04-09-1968
- b) Marie Anne: n. 19-01-1970
- c) Jason: n. 23-01-1974
- d) Brenda: n. 02-09-1975

9. Jeannine: n. 26-09-1955

10. Daniel: n. 19-08-1961

11. Paul: n. 24-05-1963

* * *

While working in the dense forest of northern Ontario Rosario met the Lafleur family. Not long after, the timber industry was collapsing because of the depression. Nonetheless Rosario and Marie-Anne got married, but because of working conditions were considering going into agriculture. They joined a group of five families and came West arriving in Guy on October 3, 1943, where the pastor was Father Paul Gagnon. The family occupied a house in Mr. Ernest Gosselin's farm yard while Rosario went to a lumber camp in the winter.

In 1946, the family of six moved to Donnelly to be closer to medical and school services and lived there until 1976. After Rosario worked as janitor at the Prairie River School in High Prairie, the couple retired in Guy among friends and family.

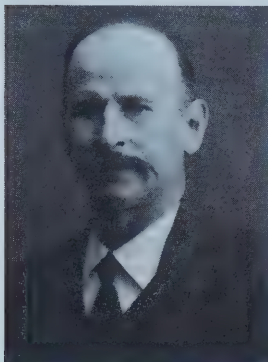
BLANCHET, ALBERT & THOMAS, MARIE

par Marie et Martin

Albert est né à Saxon, petit village de la Suisse romande, le 8 avril 1866. Le fils aîné de Joseph Etienne, se maria en 1890 à Marie Thomas, une fille du même village.

Pendant plusieurs années, Albert fut facteur dans son village natal. La période d'après-guerre offrait des possibilités d'avancement limitées pour la famille. Afin de trouver un

meilleur avenir elle déménagea au Canada au mois de mai 1920. Quand Albert quitta son travail pour le Canada, il recevait déjà sa pension. Malgré leurs âges avancés Albert et Marie vinrent en Amérique avec leur famille: trois fils, Oscar Numa, Marius et Robert, une fille, Marguerite et deux frères célibataires de Marie, Antoine et Paul Thomas.



Albert Blanchet.

Durant les premières années, tous travaillaient ensemble pour construire maison, écurie et poulailler.

Grand-maman fut bientôt reconnue pour la qualité de son vin. En été elle se servait de pissenlit, en hiver de raisin. La fermentation se produisait derrière le poêle de cuisine. Ensuite le vin était conservé dans des bocaux. Il y en avait toujours amplement; quand les policiers faisaient des investigations, ils en buvaient suffisamment pour oublier la raison de leur visite. Après la fermentation le reste des raisins servait à faire des tartes, qui étaient très bonnes.

Grand-maman était aussi le médecin du coin. Elle assista à plusieurs naissances comme sage-femme, une occupation qu'elle avait apportée des vieux pays.

Quand on allait chez Grand-papa, on le trouvait toujours assis devant la maison avec sa canne. Grand-maman était presque toujours au jardin, clôturé de croûte de bois. Pour y arriver on passait dans la cour devant le poulailler, l'écurie à vaches et l'écurie à chevaux. Dans le jardin on trouvait les plus belles framboises de la région.

Avec les années leurs enfants, Marius et Marguerite (Cloutier), les fournissaient de provisions fraîches chaque jour; tel que le lait, les oeufs, le pain. Antoine était chargé de faire cette visite quotidienne. Lorsqu'il ne pouvait plus faire le trajet quotidien, les deux familles prenaient leur tour pour apporter ce qui était nécessaire chez leurs parents.

Grand-papa souffrait de la diabète et il



Mme Marie Blanchet.

passa les deux dernières années de sa vie au lit. Malgré les soins de Grand-maman il décéda en 1948 à l'âge de 82 ans. Ensuite Grand-maman habita avec sa fille, Marguerite. En 1953 la famille Cloutier déménagea à Edmonton et elle les suivit. Là, elle eut de la difficulté à s'adapter et en décembre 1956, à l'âge de 89 ans, elle mourut. Elle fut inhumée à Edmonton.

Albert Blanchet: n. 08-04-1866 m. 1890 d. 29-11-1948.

Marie Thomas: n. -09-1867 d. 21-12-1956.

ENFANTS:

1) Oscar Numa: n. 1892 d. 08-12-1927.

2) Marius: n. 06-08-1894 m. 02-03-1929 d. 12-04-1951.

Thérèse Lonfat: n. 13-04-1906 d. 09-04-1985

3) Marguerite: n. 09-03-1899 m. 25-07-1922
Elzéar Cloutier: n. 20-11-1892 d.

Habite présentement avec sa fille Edvige à Evansburg, Alberta.

4) Robert: n. 30-05-1901 m. 27-12-1926.
Habite à Edmonton.

* * *

Albert was born in Switzerland and for many years was postman in his native village of Saxon. The post-war years offered limited possibilities for the family; in order to find a better future he

came to Canada in May of 1920. When he quit his job, he was already pensioned. At a ripe age Albert and Marie came to America with their family: three sons, one daughter and two single brothers of Marie, Antoine and Paul Thomas.

During the first years they all worked together to build a house, barn and chicken coop.

Soon Grandma was known for her quality wine. In summer she would use dandelions and in winter, raisins. Fermentation occurred behind the kitchen stove. Then the wine was kept in jars. There was always plenty. After fermentation the raisins were used to make pies. Grandma was also the local doctor. She assisted at many a birth as mid-wife, an occupation brought over from the old country. When visiting, we would find Grandpa sitting in front of the house with his cane while Grandma would be in the garden which was fenced with slabs. There one would find the best raspberries in the region.

Later on their children, Marius and Marguerite (Cloutier) would provide them daily with fresh produce such as milk, eggs, bread. Antoine would take charge of this and when he could no longer do it, both families would take turns to provide necessities for their parents. Grandpa suffered from diabetes and was bed-ridden for the last two years of his life. However well Grandma treated him, he passed away in 1948 at the age of 82. Then Grandma stayed with her daughter, Marguerite. In 1953 the Cloutier family moved to Edmonton and she followed them. She had difficulty adapting and in December 1956, she died at the age of 89.

BLANCHET, MARIUS & LONFAT, THERESE

par la famille

Marius, fils d'Albert et de Marie Thomas, vit le jour à Saxon en Suisse le 6 août 1894. Avant son départ pour le Canada en 1920, il était comme son père, facteur au village.

Une fois à Falher, il prit le "homestead" SE 28-76-21-W5 et là il y construisit sa première demeure et son écurie. En 1927 il songe sérieusement à la vie conjugale et alors il bâtit une nouvelle maison juste au nord de sa première maison sur la NE 28-76-21-W5. La première maison par la suite servira de forge. Ce coin fut l'endroit choisi pour la ferme car on y avait trouvé l'essentiel: l'eau potable. Une fois le travail terminé, à l'automne 1928, Marius retourna au pays natal afin de se marier. Le 2 mars 1929 il épousa à Martigny en Suisse, Thérèse Lonfat, originaire du petit village de Char-rat à cinq kilomètres de Saxon.

Parti seul, ils reviennent à deux. Pour Thérèse la traversée fut agréable mais pour Marius,



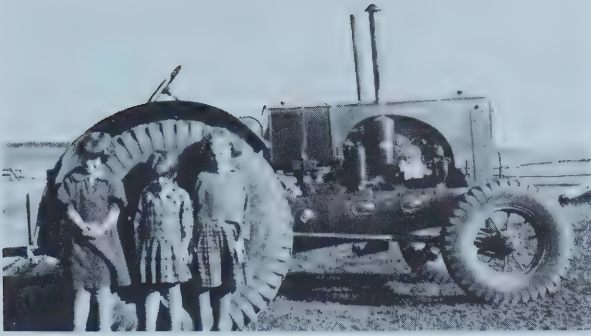
R.1 Martin, Norbert, Gabrielle. R.2 Thérèse, Marius, Angèle, Marie, Cécile et Berthe.

pénible. Il souffrit du mal de mer et passa la majeure partie du trajet au lit. Les premières années furent très difficiles, particulièrement pour Thérèse. Malgré que son frère Joseph habitait la région, la jeune mariée, qui n'avait guère voyagé hors de son village, s'ennuyait de sa famille en Suisse: trois frères, deux soeurs, plusieurs neveux et nièces, et des amis. Il était entendu que dans cinq ou six ans le couple retournerait en visite mais l'avenir changea leur plan: la crise économique, les enfants et la maladie. Il ne fut plus question de voyager.

En novembre 1931, Papa est tombé malade. Il eut une appendice crevé, et lorsqu'il se rendit à l'hôpital de McLennan, il était gravement malade. Le restant de sa vie fut une longue série d'hospitalisations. La plupart du temps il était à l'hôpital Général à Edmonton. Il fit aussi un séjour à la clinique Mayo de Rochester, New York. Là, le climat lui était favorable et si l'occasion s'était présentée, il y aurait amené toute la famille.

Même si la santé n'y était pas, Papa savait diriger ses affaires. Naturellement, il y eu plusieurs employés: Claude Gervais, Albert Robertson, Raoul Doucet, Roland Cloutier, George Lemire, Joe Morin, George et Henri Servant, Roland Lavoie et Lucien Portelance. L'un à signaler était Joe Mallot qui, pour environ quinze ans, s'occupa de tout à la maison, comme si c'était à lui. Joe cultivait son propre terrain à quatre kilomètres de chez nous.

Il y avait aussi les filles engagées. Pour elles, le travail dans la maison ne manquait pas: Jeanne Lacourse (Nicolet), Yvette Savard (Gra-



Cécile, Berthe & Marie. Premier tracteur de Marius Blanchet.



Albert and Marie Blanchet, Paul Thomas, Iréné Cloutier, Joseph Lonfat, Elzéar Cloutier, Marius avec bébé Cécile et Thérèse Blanchet, Hélène Lonfat. Plus haut Robert Blanchet, les enfants Cloutier et Martin Lonfat. Baptême de Cécile à la demeure de Marius en 1930.

nger), Marie-Berthe Fortier (Cloutier), Thérèse Morin (Doucet), Rollande Cliche (Morin) et Marie-ange Cloutier (Morin). Tous ces gens furent fort appréciés.

Un bon souvenir de la ferme était la saison des battages. Le temps était généralement beau pour les récoltes. Tout le monde se levait tôt. Les femmes à quatre heures pour préparer le déjeuner de sept heures, pour les douze à quatorze heures; les hommes tôt aussi pour soigner les chevaux et préparer le moulin à battre pour la journée. Le dîner était à midi, le goûter à quatre heures, dans le champ, et le souper vers sept heures. Une fois les battages terminés, tous les travailleurs et voisins étaient invités à une grande veillée où rien ne manquait; il y avait même de la bière en baril.

Durant les premières années nous allions à la messe dans différentes maisons privées. C'est chez Monsieur Gamache à Peavine que Cécile et Marie firent leur première communion. Une fois l'église de Guy bâtie, c'est là que nous allions. Vers 1937 ou 1938, un prêtre est venu à l'école de Ballater afin de dire la messe et d'y enseigner le catéchisme. La chapelle St-Louis fut construite en 1942. Elle était desservie par les prêtres venant de Falher.

Pour l'école, c'était Ballater North (prononcé Ballataire par les parents). Nous aimions cette école: nous rencontrions nos voisins les Lacourse au demi-mille et ensuite nous marchions l'autre mille ensemble. L'hiver, par les grands froids, nous étions reconduits à l'école en "caboose" (petite maison sur patins avec un petit poêle à bois à l'intérieur et tirée par les chevaux). Dans l'école, il n'y avait qu'une grande pièce pour les classes de la première à la huitième année. Dans un coin, il y avait une grande fournaise à bois. À l'entrée on y trouvait le vestiaire pour les manteaux et les

bottes. Il y avait aussi une petite chambre pour le professeur.

En 1949, la santé de Papa s'aggravant, il acheta une maison à Falher. C'est avec beaucoup de regrets que la famille abandonna la ferme. Martin et Angèle, les deux plus jeunes, reçurent donc toute leur éducation à Falher. Et la ferme fut louée à Lorenzo Laflamme.

Papa est décédé à l'hôpital Général d'Edmonton, le 12 avril 1951. Il avait été un homme de grand courage avec toujours un sourire et de l'amitié pour tous. Maman dut élever la famille seule. En avril 1952, elle retourna finalement en Suisse pour visiter sa famille: une soeur et deux frères vivaient toujours. Elle y demeura



Blanchet house under construction: Marius Blanchet, Pierre Jacka and Martin Lonfat.

jusqu'en octobre. En 1967, elle fit le voyage de nouveau avec Angèle et pour la dernière fois avec Berthe et Alphée Pelletier en 1980. Durant toutes ces années Maman correspondait avec sa famille et ses amis de Suisse.

Maman vendit la maison à Falher en 1969 et

demeura avec Angèle et sa famille pendant plusieurs années. Elle revint à Falher en 1981 pour habiter chez Berthe. Elle vivait chez elle au moment de sa mort subite, le 9 avril 1985. Maman était reconnue pour sa charité envers tous. Elle aidait les missions étrangères avec de généreux dons. Elle désirait aussi la bonne entente dans sa famille. Soyons en dignes et fiers. Marius Blanchet: n. 06-08-1894 m. 02-03-1929 d. 12-04-1951.

Thérèse Lonfat: n. 13-04-1906 d. 09-04-1985.
ENFANTS:

1) Cécile: n. 21-07-1930 m. 04-11-1952.

Louis Dumont: n. 02-09-1927

a) Gilbert: n. 26-09-1953

b) Roger: n. 07-01-1955

c) Richard: n. 05-11-1956

d) Paulette: n. 16-10-1960

e) Maurice: n. 14-12-1961 d. 25-02-1963

f) Eugène: n. 06-08-1964

2) Marie: n. 17-09-1931 m. 04-11-1952

Gaston Menche: n. 27-08-1928

(voir Gaston Menche)

3) Berthe: n. 27-05-1933 m. 29-06-1955

Alphé Pelletier: n. 24-07-1925 d. 29-03-1981

a) Diane: n. et d. 09-04-1956

b) Mark: n. 26-09-1957 m. 04-09-1976

Patricia Grubbs: n. 08-12-1958

Ils ont deux enfants: Mélonie, Jordan

c) André n. 13-12-1958

d) Isabel n. 17-05-1963

4) Georgette: n. -05-1935 d. 10-03-1936
Repose à Guy.

5) Norbert: n. 21-07-1938

6) Gabrielle: n. 20-02-1940 m. 28-07-1962

Rodolphe Charest: n. 31-12-1928 d. 19-09-1971

a) Susan: n. 16-04-1963

b) Paul: n. 10-04-1965

c) Raymond: n. 12-05-1968

7) Henri: n. 22-07-1941 d. 08-09-1941 au
cimetière de Falher

8) Martin: n. 06-03-1943 m. 28-12-1983

Karen Knight: n. 28-03-1952

a) Warren: n. 05-09-1980

b) Stuart: n. 10-11-1985

9) Angèle: n. 27-10-1944 m. 01-07-1967

René Lemire: n. 26-09-1943

a) Lorraine: n. 31-03-1969

b) Monique: n. 09-12-1971

c) Michelle: n. 03-01-1973

10) Bernard: n. et d. -02-1946, inhumé au
cimetière de McLennan.

* * *

Marius was born in Saxon, Switzerland and like his father was village postman.

Once in Falher he filed a homestead and there built his first home and a barn. In 1927, thinking seriously about marriage he built a new home north of the first one. This was the chosen spot for the farm as drinking water was available. Once the fall work was done in autumn of 1928, Marius returned to his native land to marry.

For Thérèse the boat trip was agreeable but for Marius who was sea-sick it was painful. The first years were difficult especially for Thérèse. She missed her family and friends in Switzerland. It was understood that the couple would return in five or six years but the depression, children and sickness changed all that. There was no more question of travel.

In November 1931, father was taken sick with a ruptured appendix; by the time he reached McLennan hospital he was seriously ill. The rest of his life was a series of hospitalizations often in the General Hospital in Edmonton. He spent some time at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, New York.

Despite ill health, father knew how to run his business. He had many hired hands one of them Joe Mallot worked for fifteen years as if he owned it himself. There were also hired girls who helped with the housework.

The harvest season brings fond memories when everyone was up early. The women would prepare the seven o'clock breakfast while the men would feed the horses and prepare the threshing machine. Dinner was at noon, lunch in the field at four and supper at seven. A feast night was usually held at the end of harvesting.

In the first years we went to Mass in different private homes. It was at Gamache's in Peavine that Cécile and Marie made their first communion. Once St-Guy was built we went there. Around 1937 or 1938 a priest would come to Ballater School to say Mass and teach catechism. The St-Louis chapel was built in 1942 and was ministered to by a priest from Falher.

Our school was Ballater North which we loved. We would meet our neighbors the Lacourse, at the half-mile and walk the other mile together. In winter we would travel by caboose. The one-room school would accommodate grades one to eight. In one corner was the big wood furnace. At the entrance, a cloak room for boots and coats. There was also a small room for the teacher. The post office was in the Ballater store owned by Mr. and Mrs Jos Morin. Mr. Lambert would pick up the mail in Falher and deliver it to Ballater, Guy and Forestview.

In 1949, due to declining health, father

bought a house in Falher. With great regret the family left the farm. It was rented to Lorenzo Laflamme. The younger ones Martin and Angele attended Falher school.

Dad was a man of courage having a smile and friendship for all. After his death mother raised the family all alone. In April 1952 she finally returned to Switzerland to visit her family. She stayed until October. In 1967 she returned again this time with Angèle and then in 1980 with Berthe and Alphée Pelletier. During all these years Mother corresponded with her family and friends in Switzerland.

Mother sold the house in Falher in 1969 and stayed with Angele and family during many years. She returned to Falher in 1981 to stay with Berthe and died in 1985. She was known for her charity towards all. She would help foreign missions with generous donations. She wished harmony in her family.

M. BOETZEL

by Françoise Dechief

M. Boetzel, a German bachelor came to NE 25-76-22 in approximately 1928. He did a lot of gardening and had himself a makeshift greenhouse. He had installed a window in the roof of his house and grew vegetables in there. He lost a crop of carrots and onions once when he was bringing it to market. His borrowed horses bolted and his whole crop of vegetables flew out of his wagon.

He was a hardworking man. Along with opening his own land, he also did some grubbing for Frank Trudeau, north of his place.

He patented his land in 1932 and sold it shortly after. He had contracted a lung disease and could no longer do any work. He went to live with his sister in B.C.

* * *

M. Boetzel, un célibataire allemand vint demeurer sur le NE 25-76-22 approximativement en 1928. Il faisait beaucoup de jardinage et avait une serre improvisée. Il avait installé une fenêtre sur le toit de sa maison et y faisait pousser des légumes.

Il était un homme bien travaillant. En plus d'ouvrir son propre terrain il essoucha celui de Frank Trudeau au nord de son emplacement.

Il obtint le titre de son terrain en 1932 et le vendit peu après. Il avait développé une maladie des poumons et ne pouvait plus travailler. Il alla demeurer avec sa soeur en Colombie Britannique.

BOISVERT, OMER & DUREAULT, LAURETTE

by Noel Boisvert

Omer Boisvert was born February 12, 1878 at Becancour, Que. In 1898, he journeyed west to Fannystelle, Man. There he worked for the railroad as a labourer at \$1.50 a day. Later he purchased some farm land leaving it in care of a friend. In 1901, the Klondike Gold Rush of the Yukon lured him to the land of the Midnight Sun. His claim was on the Maisy May Creek, a small tributary to the Stewart River. The claim was number fifteen and registered under the Free Miners Certificate No. 53787. It was later sold to a large mining company that used a dredge to scoop up the bottom of the creek. The pick and shovel and small miners were engulfed by the big companies. This claim in 1981 was still in good standing. He had many experiences in the Yukon. On one cold winter night he walked 22



Mr. and Mrs. Omer Boisvert with their grandchildren.

miles from a camp on the Bonanza Creek to Dawson City, to have a tooth extracted. While hauling meat supplies with a dog team to a remote miner's camp he was followed by a pack of hungry wolves. Part of the provisions was cut loose for the wolves to feed on, enabling him to gain distance away. His most morbid experience and one he never did forget was witnessing the public hanging of two murderers at Dawson City in 1903. With this grisly affair still on his mind and the slowing down of the gold rush he left on the first steamer that spring for the outside. Back at Fannystelle he purchased more land with his claim money and began farming seriously. There he met Laurette Dureault who was born February 23, 1881 at Ste Angele de Laval, Que. She was a school teacher and with her parents moved to Fannystelle in 1900. They were married on August 10, 1904. and from this union ten children

were born. Close friends of the family, Henri and Jeanne Villeneuve had moved from St. Boniface, Man. to Long Beach, California and the correspondence from there was favorable in all respects: the climate, ocean, fruit growing and employment in the booming oil wells. In 1923, the whole family moved to Long Beach. Omer was employed as a high pressure steam operator in the oil refineries. But after four years it was evident there was no future for the boys there. Hearing of the land availability in the Peace River Country he left in advance of the family in the spring of 1927. His ticket was destined for Pouce Coupe, B.C. En route from Edmonton the conductor of the train advised him of a large French Canadian settlement at Falher and that he should stop and look it over for farm land. This he did. While having lunch at the Adanac Hotel, he recognized a familiar face sitting at the next table. It was his old friend from the Yukon, Noe Verdon, whom he had last seen in 1903 at Dawson City. Mr. Verdon was instrumental in convincing my father to take raw land south of Falher. After exploring around for a week, he filed on SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 21-76-21-W5 for himself and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 21-76-W5



Boisvert Home built in 1928.

and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 20-76-21-W5 for his two oldest sons, Adrien and Joe. The family, except his daughter Blanche, who remained in Long Beach, arrived in Falher in September 1927. The family lived for a while in William Faust's house and later moved to the residence of Omer Cloutier. During this time we attended school at Mr. Faust's house, on land which is now owned by Paul Lacourse and also in Mr. Jette's large log house near the Peavine Creek. Our house was built in 1928 and the logs for the lumber were taken east of present day Guy. In 1929, Ballater S.D. 4256, a school, was built on NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 28-76-21-W5 constructed

by Wilbrod Desaulnier. This meant a one and a half mile walk to school. Prosperity was of importance. Price of grain was good and it was the beginning of a new farming life in Northern Alberta. However, like so often in our history, "Feast and Famine" struck a blow in 1929. Without warning, the people were caught in a cycle of poverty and hardship for the duration of the thirties. Those with large families had to stay and endure the consequences. Our house was used for church services prior to the building of the Guy Church. Father St. Pierre would say mass and baptize new born babies of the district. Mrs. Gaston Mencke (Marie Blanchet) was one. The house was also used for a polling station at election time. Natives from New Fish Creek on their annual trek to visit relatives near Kathleen and Winagami would camp on Joe's farm just opposite the house. Francis Belcourt was in charge of the large group. Dad would always have a couple of bear hides ready and would exchange for tanned moose hides. Georges Birch was the Watkins dealer while Louis Danze was representing the Rawleigh Co. They were frequent visitors in the district, winter or summer. Fred Smith, well known boxer in the Peace, stayed at Joe Gagnon's home while he trained for his fight with Ray Prudholme. He would come and spar with my brothers, Vigor and Gaston. Blocks of ice were hauled from the Little Smoky River and covered with sawdust. This was our drinking water for the summer. Logs for firewood had to be cut, hauled and piled in the yard. Philip Lacoursiere would come around with his water cooled engine and saw the logs into blocks. In the summer time, Sundays were spent at the river flat, where we played softball, swam and generally had a good get together. Some of the players on the team were Walter Besse, Pete Michael, Charles Debaere, Edmond Désaunois, Moïse Dupuy, Ben Demers, Emile and Paul Lacourse, Jules Bourgeois, Joe, Vigor, Gaston, Paul, and Noel Boisvert. Louis Besse was always available with his truck to transport the team. While the Depression held on, we had happy times. Sports were all of our main interests. The Joe Louis fights, Foster Hewitt with his broadcast of "Hockey Night in Canada" and Babe Ruth of baseball, news of the Dionne quintuplets of Corbeil, Ont., the saga of the Mad Trapper, Albert Johnson, from Rat River and the Moose River mine disaster were other happenings of the times. You had to take your mind off the Depression and keep on with life. We were all poor and on the same level.

Blanche: Although she never did live here, her many trips over the years to visit her folks on the farm enabled her to know everyone in the

district. While living in Long Beach, she met and married Richard Walter. Being in the oil business, they moved to many parts of the USA, but finally settled in Longview, Texas. She was widowed in 1976, and still lives in her home there. Her church work and oil painting keep her active.



Noël Boisvert's family: R.1 Douglas Woroniuk, Jennifer Bean and Kris Bean. R.2 Terry Woroniuk, Emilie (Boisvert) Bean, Trudy Woroniuk, Roger Boisvert. R.3 Pat and Pat (Boisvert) Drapeau, Agnes and Noel Boisvert, Louise (Boisvert) Woroniuk, Ken Bean.

Adrien: Farmed SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 21-76-21-W5, except for six years, when he served in the army. He was in the Italian campaign. Upon his discharge in 1945 he returned to the land. In 1975 he sold his farm and remained there in retirement. He was the mechanic of the Boisvert family. It was his joy to dismantle an ailing motor and fix it. As a young boy he always had a wrench tucked in his back pocket. In 1985 he suffered a stroke and is now a resident of the McLennan Nursing Home.

Joe: Farmed S $\frac{1}{2}$ 20-76-21-W5 until 1972 when he sold his farm and decided to retire. He was the road maintainer in the district. His route was to Falher, Forest-View Post Office and part of St. Martin's road. He also coached our softball team. Both he and Vigor having learnt to play baseball at Long Beach performed with the Falher baseball team for years. On November 24th, 1986 he and his wife Cecile celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their only child, Doreen, in Edmonton. They are both enjoying retirement at Falher.

Claire: Worked for many years at the Adanac Hotel and became like one of Frank Rentier's family. He was the owner of the hotel. In 1936 she returned to Long Beach to join her sister Blanche and found permanent employment. There in later years she married Charles Langfelt. They made many trips to this area to visit the family. Chuck is particularly familiar with the hunting region in the Whitemud area. Both are in retirement at Altadena, Calif.

Vigor: Farmed NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 6-75-21-W5, but was employed with the M.D. of Smoky River for a number of years doing road work and other related duties. Although not a big man, he was powerful in strength and could not be beaten in arm twisting. He is the only one in the area who could do the somersault perfectly. After a lengthy illness with cancer, he passed away in Edmonton on September 4th, 1983, at the age of 70 years. He was laid to rest at the Glenwood Memorial Gardens at Sherwood Park.

Gaston: The oldest of the family to attend school at Ballater No. 4256. He filed on some land but did not stay long enough to see it. He worked in the gold mines at Wells, B.C. for a couple of years and when war was declared he joined the army, serving in Holland and Germany. Upon his return he found employment with the City of Vancouver, B.C. and remained with them till his retirement. He resides at Maple Ridge, B.C.

Lillian: Married Jules Bourgeois, and lived on their farm NE $\frac{1}{4}$ 17-76-21-W5, during the Depression, except for a few years during the early war, when he worked with his father in the livestock business at St. Albert, AB. They returned to the farm and bought more land and remained there till his death on October 10th, 1971. The farm was later sold to Lillian's son, Paul. She worked as a cook at the McLennan Nursing Home, and finally until her retirement as matron at the Villa Beauséjour. She resides in Falher.

Paul: Owned NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 3-75-23-W5, in the Whitemud district. He attended school at Ballater and two years at the Jesuit College in Edmonton. He worked for many years as a weed inspector for the M.D. of Smoky River and other duties pertaining to agriculture. Arthritis curtailed many years of work for him but his perseverance has stabilized his affliction and he is now able to hunt and drive around buying antiques. He was well known for his pitching powers with the Falher baseball team. He was widowed in 1972 when his wife Betty passed away on May 25th from cancer. Presently, you will find him at the Villa Beauséjour, enjoying life.

Noel: I attended school at Ballater, two years at the Jesuit College in Edmonton, and two years in Falher, before embarking on a railroad career that lasted 39 years. I was employed as a station agent for 29 years and ten years as a travelling representative until all the stations were closed in 1970. I am one of the few remaining Morse telegraphers left. The former NAR station is presently a Day Care Centre, located near the Hockey Arena. The original farm of my father is still in the family name. I was gone for many years but

always found my way back to the farm. I saw the development of the district from the Depression days to a prosperous farming community of today. If the young generation of today wonders what farm life was like back in the early thirties just go and visit the Girouxville Museum. There you might see some of your Grandmother's working equipment. In 1981, I took early retirement from the railway and now live in Falher with my wife Agnes.

Annette: She was the last member of the family to attend school at Ballater, and finished her schooling at Falher. From here, she took a secretarial course in Edmonton. After working there for sometime, she was transferred to Whithorse, Yukon. This is where she met her husband, Fred Collman. He was an American soldier based there at the time. They now live at Colorado Springs, Co.

My father was a keen hunter and loved the outdoors. His cabin on the Little Smoky River was used for hunting and trapping. We also used it during the summer for camping. I remember several dug-out boats he hewed from large balm trees of Gilead (Black Poplar). It was like a floating log on water but it never rolled. He loaded a large moose, quartered up, and crossed the river easily. No other wooden boat around could hold such a load. In 1954, my dad and mother moved into their own home at Falher. They enjoyed many years there being close to neighbors and their church. On December 27th, 1961, dad lost his battle with cancer and died at the age of 83 years. Mother passed away peacefully, on January 1st, 1970. Both were laid to rest in the Falher Cemetery.

Omer Boisvert: b.12-02-1878 m.10-08-1904 d.27-12-1961

Laurette Dureault: b.23-02-1881 d.01-01-1970

CHILDREN:

1. Blanche: n.03-08-1905 m.30-05-1934
Dick Walter: n.02-06-1893 d.25-01-1976
a) Richard: d.07-03-1986
2. Adrien: n.14-08-1907 m.27-12-1933
Irene Viens: n.24-07-1914 d.23-08-1985
They have two children: Noella and Mary Jean.
3. Joe: n.15-06-1909 m.24-11-1936
Cecile Chailler: n.27-11-1917
a) Doreen
4. Claire: n.08-04-1911 m.05-11-1949
Charles Langfeldt: n.27-06-1918
5. Vigor: n.10-03-1913 m.26-11-1942 d.04-09-1983
Mariette Lacourse: n.15-09-1923
They have five children: Vivianne, Jeannette (d. 24-08-1974), Emile, Carmen and Annette.

6. Gaston: n.31-05-1915 m.16-06-1951
Nancy Taylor: n.09-12-1927
a) Diane
7. Lillian: n.20-10-1916 m.16-07-1933
Jules Bourgeois (see Bourgeois, Jules)
8. Paul: n.22-07-1918 m.21-04-1941
Betty Newton: n.07-12-1923 d.25-05-1972
They have six children: Richard, Andrew (d.28-10-1943), Raymond, Lovina, Roland and Peter.
9. Noel: n.25-12-1921 m.14-10-1944
Agnes Measures: n.14-01-1925
They have four children: Louise, Emilie, Patricia and Roger.
10. Annette: n.08-08-1923 m.10-07-1946
Fred Collman: n.06-03-1926
a) Ralph
b) Ronald: d. 29-07-1969.

* * *

Omer Boisvert naquit le 12 février, 1878 à Becancourt, P.Q. En 1898 il se rendit à Fannys-telle, Manitoba, où il travailla sur le chemin de fer à \$1.50 de l'heure.

En 1901 il se rendit au Yukon pendant la ruée vers l'or du Klondike.

Après quelque années il retourna à Fannys-telle où il acheta d'autres terrains et devint cultivateur. C'est là où il rencontra Laurette Dureault, née le 23 février 1881, à Ste-Angèle de Laval, P. Q. Elle était professeur, ayant déménagé là en 1900 avec ses parents.

Ils se marièrent le 10 août, 1904 et de cette union dix enfants naquirent.

En 1923 Omer et sa famille déménagèrent à Long Beach, Californie où Omer travailla dans les raffineries d'huile. Après quatre ans ce fut évident qu'il n'y avait pas d'avenir là pour ses garçons. Ayant appris qu'il y avait des terres à prendre dans la région de la Rivière-la-Paix, il partit seul au printemps 1927 pour s'informer. Rendu à Falher il rencontra son ami du Yukon, Noé Verdon, qui le persuada de prendre du terrain au sud de Falher. Sa famille sauf sa fille Blanche, arriva à Falher au mois de septembre de la même année. En arrivant la famille demeura chez des voisins jusqu'à ce que leur maison soit construite en 1928. Les enfants d'âge scolaire marchaient un mille et demi pour se rendre à l'école Ballater #1 nouvellement érigée en 1929. Pendant une très courte période tout alla bien mais la grande dépression des années trente vint complètement changer la vie des gens; le prix du grain devint, très bas, il n'y avait aucun emploi et les gens souffrirent beaucoup pendant les dix prochaines années.

Heureusement les gens se rencontraient souvent, surtout le dimanche et savaient comment s'amuser.

Mon père aimait beaucoup la chasse et jouissait de sa cabane près de la rivière Little Smoky. Je me souviens que pendant ces campements, il construisait des bateaux qui servaient à transporter le gibier abattu au sud de la rivière.

En 1954 mes parents prirent leur retraite à Falher où ils passèrent de belles années près de leur amis et de leur église. Mon père mourut le 27 décembre 1961, à l'âge de 83 ans; ma mère le 1er janvier 1970.

BOIVIN, ROMA & LEMAY, ANTOINETTE

by Lorraine Boivin Dickner

On May 10, 1930 born in Chicoutimi, Quebec was one bouncing baby boy name of Roma Edward. He is the 13th child of a family of seventeen. At the young age of forty days, Roma travelled from his birth place to Eaglesham, Alberta. The Boivin family settled there on July 1, 1930. He then resided in Tangent until his early teens. During the summer Roma worked for his brother-in-law in Donnelly and then was off to the bush for the winter, falling trees.

At the age of twenty-four Roma married Antoinette Lemay of Guy, Alberta. This blessed day occurred on April 13, 1955. He then worked for Raoul Lambert on the farm during the sum-



R.1 Rollande, Lynne. R.2 Pauline, Diane, Rita, Lorraine, R.3 Antoinette, Raymond, Roma.

mer but still went to the bush for the winter. In 1961 Roma bought the farm where his wife was raised as a child; the land did not bring in enough revenue so he still maintained a job in the bush, along with farming his own land in the summer. Antoinette would go with him to the bush and cook. This was a happy time for them. But there were also some sad moments. One winter in 1958 Antoinette fell and miscarried twin boys. On the way to the hospital they took the ditch and the men had to push and shovel to get back on the road.

In 1965 Roma started work for Gerry Paradis who owned a bee-keeping company. Roma is still presently employed there. Amidst all of this, Roma and Antoinette raised a family of seven children, six girls and one boy. Again tragedy struck with the loss of their youngest child. On June 7, 1984 Lynne Marie died in a motor vehicle accident. This proved to be a tough time for the family but with the support of friends, family and neighbors this dark cloud was soon lifted and life was to resume, but the good memories of our dear Lynne still shine.

Dedicated to my baby sister, with love,
Roma Boivin: n. 10-05-1930 m. 13-04-1955
Antoinette Lemay: n. 30-10-1936 CHILDREN:

- 1) Pauline: n. 12-01-1956 m. 12-10-1975
Bill Klimko
They have two children: Mark and Timothy, and they reside in Wanham.
- 2) Raymond: n. 20-05-1957
Employed by the Department of Highways.
- 3) Lorraine: n. 03-02-1959 m. 16-07-1977
Armand Dickner
They have two children: Normand and Lynne and reside in Whitecourt.
- 4) Dianne: n. 27-06-1960 m. 12-04-1979
Bill Kushnirak
They have two children: Michael and Joni Lynne and reside in Falher.
- 5) Rita: n. 06-07-1962 m. 17-07-1982
Lionel Savard
They have two children: Camil and Victor.
- 6) Rollande: n. 20-09-1964 m. 06-11-1982
Paul Andre Bouchard
They have one child: Richard and they reside in Girouxville
- 7) Lynne: n. 27-08-1966 d. 07-06-1984

* * *

Roma était le treizième d'une famille de dix-sept. A l'âge de quarante jours il vint à Eaglesham. Il vécut son adolescence à Tangent. Il travaillait pour son beau-frère à Donnelly et dans les chantiers l'hiver. Au temps de son mar-

riage il travaillait pour Raoul Lambert. En 1961, il acheta la ferme où sa femme avait grandi.

En 1965, Roma se mit à travailler pour Gérard Paradis, apiculteur, et y travaille encore.

BOUCHARD, JOSEPH & PELLETIER, LUCIENNE

par Lucienne Bouchard

Jos Bouchard, fils de Mathias Bouchard et d'Elizabeth Grenier, est né à St-Donat Cté Rimouski, P.Q. Il est arrivé à Guy, Alberta, en 1950. Pendant trois ans Jos travaille aux chantiers l'hiver et pour les fermiers de la région l'été. Il voulait explorer la région pour voir s'il s'installerait à la Rivière La Paix et à quel endroit précisément. Il se marie à Guy le 08-09-1953 à Lucienne Pelletier, fille de Léon Pelletier et Léda St-Pierre. Ils partent pour St-Donat en lune de miel. Jos se trouve un emploi



R.1 Debbie, Sandy. R.2 Lise, Lucienne, Jos. R.3 Daniel, Linda, Stéphane Bouchard.

comme bûcheron et camionneur à Baie Comeau. En 1958, il déménage avec sa famille à Montréal, où il chauffe un camion pour la compagnie A. Billet Ltd. jusqu'en 1967. Cette même année il revient à Guy avec quatre enfants.

Depuis 1967, Jos habite NW-24-76-20-W5 situé sur la grande route No. 2. Jos est fermier et camionneur. Les enfants ont fréquenté l'école Langlois de Guy et plus tard G.P. Vanier de Donnelly.

Lucienne travaille au Foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan, depuis 1981.

ENFANTS:

1. Lise; n.02-1954 m.12-09-1970
Jean Soucy; n.05-07-1949
 - a) Dino; n.05-11-1970
 - b) Tina; n.04-1973

Ils demeurent à Grande Prairie où Jean travaille pour "Proctor & Gamble".

2. Daniel; n.03-06-1955 m.20-06-1975

Dorine Boissoneault

- a) Michael; n.24-06-1977
- b) Joey; n.09-07-1980
- c) Jason; n.23-09-1984

Daniel est fermier et demeure avec sa famille à Donnelly.

3. Linda; n.28-04-1958 m.20-01-1973

Lucien Gagnon; n.23-01-1952

- a) Suzanne; n.03-08-1973
- b) Carol; n.01-03-1971

Ils demeurent à Rainbow Lake, AB.

4. Stéphane; n.05-12-1964

Stéphane est camionneur.

5. Sandy; n.21-04-1970 (Jumelle)

6. Debbie; n.21-04-1970 (Jumelle)

* * *

Jos, son of Mathias Bouchard and Elizabeth Grenier, was born at St. Donat, Cté Rimouski, P.Q. He came to Guy in 1950 where he worked in sawmills in winter and for the area farmers in summer. He married Lucienne Pelletier, daughter of Leon Pelletier and Léda St.Pierre. They left for St. Donat on their honeymoon. Jos found work at Baie Comeau, P.Q., as a lumberjack and truck driver. In 1958, he moved his family to Montreal where he drove a truck for A. Billet Company until 1967 when he moved his family to Guy.

Jos and his family now live on NW-24-76-20-W5. Jos farms and is a truck driver. Lucienne has worked at Notre Dame du Lac Nursing Home in McLennan since 1981.

BOUILLY, LEONCE & PARENT, REINE

by Jean Bouilly

My parents were born in France and emigrated to Canada in December 1934 with three children, Madeleine, Pierre and Jean. My dad's dream was for us to become grain farmers, having heard so much about the Peace River country from Father Gagnon O.M.I. who in Quebec was making a campaign to recruit french canadian settlers to establish themselves on homesteads in the Falher, Donnelly area.

In 1945 with my older brother Pierre, dad left Montreal to visit and get first hand information about Guy and the surrounding area. Unfortunately the trip was cut short and terminated in Winnipeg where Pierre was hospitalized and had surgery. They were to return the following year and bought three quarters of land, two miles north of Guy on the Donnelly Road.



M. Zesko, Dr Léonce Bouilly et Pierre Bouilly.

The following year, Madeleine and I came to visit Pierre during the summer holidays. Madeleine met Rene Soucy and got married the same year. I returned to Montreal to continue my education. Pierre quit farming the next year and returned to the big city being home-sick!

We both came back to Guy in 1955, my brother with his wife Claudette. Again they both returned to Eastern Canada after their first child, Susan, was born in the fall of 1955, in the McLennan hospital.

I came back the following spring, having met my future wife in Guy the summer of '55. I married Leona Lagace, daughter of Leo Lagace and Medora Brulotte on October 31, 1956. Shortly after we moved to Edmonton.



Pierre et Jean Bouilly faisant la sieste après le dîner, en 1947.

The farm was left in the hands of Madeleine and Rene Soucy till Rene passed away in 1978. Dad also invested in roughly five hundred beehives, which were run on a share basis with Wilfrid Bisson of Guy and Andre Gagnon of Girouxville. His last venture in 1951 was the purchase of a quarter of land on highway #2 between Edmonton and St. Albert where I lived with my family

till 1970 when the farm was sold. Then we moved to St. Albert with our three children.

Dad left us for a better place in January 1963 after a lengthy illness at home in Montreal, at the age of 85.

Mom (Reine Parent) went to join him in April 1979 peacefully at the age of 77.

Jean Bouilly: n.

m.31-10-1956 in Guy

Leona Lagace: n.13-02-1939

CHILDREN:

1. Jocelyne: n.13-06-1958 m.

John Bremault

They have two children: Denis and Christopher

2. Daniel: n.16-05-1960 m.

Barbara Martin

3. Diane: n.27-10-1962 m.

Barry Pelletier

They have two children: Daniel and Jennifer.

My brother, Pierre, retired in Montreal. He also has three children, all of Montreal. Susan, Pierre and Robert are all married.

* * *

Mes parents sont nés en France et ont émigré au Canada en décembre 1934 avec trois enfants, Madeleine, Pierre et Jean. Le rêve de mon père était que nous devenions des cultivateurs ayant tous entendu parler de la Rivière-La-Paix par le Père Gagnon, o.m.i.

En 1946, Pierre et mon père vinrent à Guy et achetèrent trois quarts à deux milles au nord de Guy sur le chemin de Donnelly.

L'année suivante Madeleine et moi sommes venus pour visiter Pierre durant les vacances d'été. Madeleine rencontra René Soucy et se maria la même année. Je retournai à Montréal pour continuer mon éducation. Pierre laissa la ferme l'année suivante pour retourner à la ville.

En 1955 nous sommes revenus à Guy, mon frère et sa femme Claudette. Encore une fois ils retournèrent dans l'est après la naissance de leur enfant Susan.

Je suis revenu au printemps suivant. J'épousai Léona Lagacé; peu après nous déménagions à Edmonton. La ferme resta aux mains de Madeleine et René jusqu'à la mort de celui-ci. Mon père investit aussi dans à peu près 500 ruches d'abeilles qui étaient partagées également entre Wilfrid Bisson de Guy et André Gagnon de Girouxville. Son dernier essai en 1951 fut l'achat d'un quart sur la grande route #2 entre Edmonton et St-Albert où je vécus avec ma famille jusqu'en 1970, quand la ferme fut

vendue. Après cela nous déménagions à St-Albert avec nos trois enfants.

BOULET, BERNARD & THIBAUT, MARIE-PAULE

par Bernard Boulet

Né à Dunrea, Manitoba, le 12 juin 1918, et arrivé à Donnelly le 4 octobre 1930 avec mon père et deux soeurs; les autres membres de la famille arrivaient au mois de novembre. J'ai fréquenté l'école de Donnelly jusqu'en juin 1935, date à laquelle je quittais les études pour travailler sur la ferme et ce, jusqu'à la fin de 1941. En hiver 40-41, je pris des cours à l'école d'Agriculture à Vermillion. En 1942, je pris un cours de soudeur à Vancouver et fut embauché au chantier naval de la même ville jusqu'en mai 1943, date d'engagement dans l'aviation royale canadienne. En octobre 1944 je graduais de l'école de pilotes avec "ailes" et grade de sergent. Je fus démobilisé en janvier 1945 et placé sous réserve spéciale.

En juin 1946, je tournai mes regards vers les terres neuves à Guy. Je fis donc application au département des terres et pris possession de ma concession au début de juillet.

Il y avait déjà dans les environs, Aldéo Major et Anatole Turcotte. Pour parvenir à ce terrain il y avait un sentier, six milles de long dans la brousse, en passant sur des chaussées de castors et en y faisant beaucoup de détours. Quelques années auparavant un feu de forêt avait brûlé le meilleur du sol et avait laissé des souches assez solides.

Lorsque les voisins embauchèrent les machines de "Little Smoky Settlement" pour ouvrir quelques acres chacun, j'en fis autant. Leur équipement consistait en un TD18 avec "bulldozer" et "brushcutter". Lorsqu'ils sont arrivés, suivant notre petit sentier, en remorquant le "brushcutter" au bout d'une chaîne, ce dernier avait considérablement aplani notre chemin; mais dans le champ et avec un tel attelage, la pelle du "bulldozer" à ras terre, le "brushcutter" toujours remorqué, se promenant en queue de veau autour des souches, donna pour résultat un défrichage de pauvre qualité et plutôt dispendieux. Après une vingtaine d'acres, je leur donnai congé. En octobre, en société avec Paul Maisonneuve, nous achetions un Cat No30 et l'année suivante ouvrions chacun 125 acres, plus quelques centaines pour d'autres voisins. Pendant les vacances d'été, mes deux frères, Gabriel et Elphège, alors étudiants au Collège St-Jean, ont "cassé" avec un tracteur John Deere D, cent acres pour P.E. Maisonneuve et autant pour moi.

En 1948, première récolte; un peu plus de 100 acres d'orge Montcalm enregistrée. Le 15 août, apparence de gel! Nous avons donc décidé de faire de la fumée, espérant nous protéger contre le gel. D'un côté, Anatole Turcotte et son frère Jos, et de l'autre, P.E. Maisonneuve et moi-même, chacun son bidon de pétrole à la main, avons allumés les baies de bois secs empilés aux extrémités des champs. Quelle merveille que ces petits feux autour de notre domaine! Et les flammes montaient tout droit vers le ciel et les étoiles et il y eut très peu de fumée. A neuf heures du soir il y avait du frimas sur les voitures; nous avons vidé l'eau des tracteurs dans une cuvette et nous nous sommes couchés. Le lendemain matin, il y avait un pouce de glace sur l'eau de la cuvette. Fin de la récolte cette année là!

L'hiver suivant, nous étions tous au chantier, espérant ramasser assez de fonds pour recommencer au printemps. La vie avait pris un patron assez régulier; défrichage, petites récoltes, chantiers! L'ensemencement de trèfle et de luzerne apporta une amélioration à nos sols au point d'y avoir des rendements bons à moyens.

Le 21 février 1949, j'épousais Marie-Paule Thibault, née à Donnelly le 21 février 1927. Marie-Paule fit aussi ses études à l'école de Donnelly.

L'exploitation de la ferme familiale à Donnelly se continuait également et ce jusqu'à notre déménagement sur le "homestead" 1/2 N18-75-19-5.

Suite par Marie-Paule Boulet

Ce n'est que le samedi 9 mai 1956, que nous nous installons définitivement sur la concession. Le lendemain, jour de la Fête des Mères, il y faisait un vent glacial qui sifflait à travers les fentes de la maison qui n'était pas lambrissée. Nous avions déjà cinq filles, de dix mois à cinq ans, et je me souviens leur avoir fait porter de gros manteaux et même s'enrouler dans des couvertures. J'en frissonne encore! A cette date il n'y avait pas un seul bourgeon en vue, donc un printemps plutôt tardif.

Le déménagement se fit au fur et à mesure la semaine précédente. A partir de Donnelly, le trajet s'effectuait assez bien, mais à partir de Guy c'était à travers bois et sentiers.

Vu que nous faisons l'élevage de porcs, nous avons dû déménager une dizaine de truies et une centaine de gorettes. Il y en avait partout... dans la cour, les bois, aux auges, et les jours de lessive, sous ma corde à linge de fortune, à manger draps, serviettes ou couches et ce jusqu'à ce qu'on y construise les enclos. Naturellement il n'y avait ni électricité, ni eau courante!

Et dire que j'avais toujours cru que nos parents étaient les "colons".

En 1956, seulement 150 acres étaient défri-chés; nous avons continué le déboisement et le nécessaire propre à rendre le terrain prêt pour la culture. Les années se sont succédées soient bonnes ou mauvaises; par exemple, la première semaine d'octobre 1957 il tomba 25 pouces de neige; pas un seul boiseau de récolté.

Le 8 octobre naissait notre premier garçon, et nous disions avec une certaine fierté: "Tout ce que nous avons récolté, c'est un petit garçon!" Ça promettait pour l'avenir! Après trente années la pièce se répète avec d'autres joueurs: culture en été et en hiver travail à l'extérieur (huile, bois, construction) et l'espoir de "L'ANNEE PROCHAINE!"

Pendant les hivers de 1960 à 1963, Bernard a travaillé sur la construction de ponts en tant que soudeur à 1,65 \$ l'heure. Au cours des années nous achetions d'autres terrains: en 1961, de Georges Cartier le NW 30-75-19-5.

En 1964-65, Bernard construisit ses râtaux-racines, que nous avons surnommés "Dinosaures".

En 1966 nous achetions de B. Champagne, les SE 25-76-20-5 et SW 30-76-19-5. En 1968, grosse récolte de blé que nous avons ramassée de peine et de misère, en novembre, car il avait neigé et c'était tout écrasé. Le grain fut mis en tas dehors et en janvier 1969, Bernard commençait la construction de son séchoir, premier du genre à Guy; Ferdinand Lévesque de Falher en avait déjà construit un. Nous avons profité de son expérience et de ses conseils. Pendant la

construction de ce séchoir, nous avons grandement apprécié l'aide bénévole, d'amis tels que Henri Johnson et Albert Parent. Ce séchoir brûlait le 10 janvier 1980.

En 1978 nous achetions le terrain de Earl Kellie: NE 13-75-20-5. Sans trop négliger enfants et maison, j'ai toujours aidé aux travaux de l'extérieur. Pour résumer, car il serait trop long d'énumérer ce qu'une femme peut faire pour seconder son mari: "J'ai fait presque tout!". Et je crois que seule l'épouse d'un fermier peut se vanter d'être "Ingénieur domestique".

En éducation et instruction, nous y avons mis le tout pour le TOUT. Selon nos connaissances et capacités, nous avons essayé d'inculquer à nos enfants des convictions religieuses et linguistiques. La lecture faisait partie de nos vies; lecture à haute voix, surtout au coucher, et avec l'âge, lecture personnelle. Dans un moment de détente, voici ce qu'écrivait Carmen au sujet de la lecture à la maison:

* * *

"Books have always been an integral part of our lives. It was not unusual for six or seven members of our family to congregate in the small living room, each with his own book. Silence and calm would reign in the house until one or the other would break out in uproarious laughter over a passage just read. The others would look up and smile indulgently. There was a tacit agreement that one did not read aloud the funny passage. For one, it never seemed as funny for the others and secondly, it was a bit like telling someone how a movie ended. Nonetheless, the person reading that special book was the recipient of bribes and special favors in an effort to be first on the list of subsequent readers.

It was always a trial to put down a good book in lieu of work or some other such duties. "I'll be there in a minute" or a non-committal grunt would greet such a reminder. The minute would stretch into five then ten minutes. It was unheard of to lay the book aside immediately and get on with the work at hand. One had to finish the page or a chapter or even the book depending on how many pages were involved. At other times, someone would slip a book under their shirt and sneak out to the peaceful sanctuary of the outhouse, and half an hour later, would emerge sheepishly from his hide-out feeling more or less guilty depending on whether or not his assigned task had been handled by someone else. More often than not, the work was still there as no one endorsed such delinquent behavior."



Famille Bernard Boulet: R.1 Stéphane Boulet. R.2 Dorothy Fetzko, Serge Boulet, Carol, Marc et Manon Laflamme en arrière de Marc, Ronald Fetzko, Marie Paule Boulet, Thérèse Kowalski, Michelle Fetzko, Martin Boulet. R.3 Guy Boulet, Huguette avec Carmen Boulet, Isabelle Laflamme, Antoine Boulet, Nicole Fetzko. R.4 Bernard Boulet, Pierre Boulet, Bertrand Boulet, Jim Fetzko, François Boulet et Roger Laflamme. Absente à la rencontre: haut, Carmen Milne, bas Doris Sinclair.

Septembre 1956, Nicole devenait pensionnaire au couvent à Donnelly, ce qui fut de courte durée, car le couvent brûlait le 3 octobre. Son année se termina par cours de correspondance.

En 1957-58, Nicole et Isabelle furent placées au couvent à McLennan. Huguette y allait également en 58- 59. Elles reprirent leurs cours à Guy en 1960, voyageant par autobus.

Afin d'obtenir une instruction française plus poussée, en 1963 nous inscrivions Nicole à l'Académie Assomption à Edmonton. En 64-65 c'était aussi Isabelle et l'année suivante, Huguette. A la fermeture de l'Académie elles revenaient dans la région et terminaient leurs études secondaires à Falher.

Carmen, Doris et Antoine ont fréquenté les écoles de Guy et Falher; François, Bertrand et Pierre ont fait toutes leurs études à Falher. Ils ont tous été diplômés des cours académiques de l'Ecole Routhier de Falher. Nous avons du mieux possible servi notre communauté, soit locale ou régionale, en participant aux organisations du moment. A.C.F.A., A.E.B.A., Action Catholique Rurale, Conseils Scolaires, Parents et Maîtres, Dames de Ste-Anne, Marguillier, Société Agricole, Falher Seed Cleaning Plant, Coopérative de Falher. Bernard est aussi membre du comité des sports et marguillier pour le conseil de l'église. A un certain moment Bernard devait être des plus impliqué, car à l'occasion de l'assassinat du Président Kennedy en novembre 1963, Antoine alors âgé de six ans, nous demandait en toute candeur et avec beaucoup de crainte: "Mais, est-ce que mon papa va se faire tuer lui aussi?"

Depuis quelques temps nous avons beaucoup diminué notre collaboration... à d'autres maintenant!

Présentement nous faisons parti du comité liturgique paroissial et régional.

Nous n'avons jamais regretté notre déménagement à Guy même pendant les années difficiles et malgré la distance à parcourir. La preuve est que nous sommes semi-retirés à Guy, et ce sur un plus petit morceau de terre, où les projets de toutes sortes se multiplient et où nous nous amusons à jouer au golf ... en amateur bien sûr!

Bernard Boulet: n. 12-06-1918 m. 21-02-1949
Marie-Paule Thibault: n. 21-02-1927

ENFANTS:

1- Nicole: n. 08-03-1950 m. 02-05-1970

James Fetzko: n.

a) Michelle: n. 17-02-1971

b) Ronald: n. 17-02-1971

c) Dorothy: n. 24-06-1972

2- Isabelle: n. 05-07-1951 m. 25-07-1970
Roger Laflamme: n.

a) Manon: n. 24-02-1971

b) Carol: n. 19-02-1973

c) Marc: n. 16-06-1975

3- Huguette: n. 04-11-1952 m. 07-04-1972
Guy Boulet: n.

a) Serge: n. 07-05-1973

b) Martin: n. 15-11-1974

c) Stéphane: n. 09-04-1977

d) Carmen: n. 30-01-1981 (adoptée)

4- Carmen: n. 13-07-1955 1m. 15-07-1978
2m. 27-07-1985

1m. Michel L'Heureux:

2m. Len Milne:

5- Doris: n. 13-07-1955 m. 10-05-1984
Fred Sinclair: n.

a) Annette: n. 13-03-1985

b) John Bernard: n. 27-04-1986

6- Antoine: n. 08-10-1957

7- François: n. 26-04-1962 m. 13-04-1985

Lorraine Jasmin: n. 23-08-1964

a) Geneviève: n. 30-09-1985

b) Daniel Marc: n. 09-03-1987

8- Bertrand: n. 04-01-1965

9- Pierre: n. 24-07-1967

* * *

From Dunrea, Manitoba I arrived in Donnelly October 4, 1930 with my Father and two sisters; the other members of the family arrived in November. I went to school in Donnelly up to June 1935, when I left my studies to work on the farm and this until the end of 1941. In winter of 1940-41, I took courses at the Vermilion School of Agriculture. In 1942 I took a welder's course in Vancouver and worked in the Royal Canadian Air Force. In October 1944 I graduated from pilot's school as sergeant with "wings". I was demobilized in January 1945 and placed on special reserve.

In June 1946 I considered the new land being opened in Guy. I applied at the Lands Department and took possession of my lease at the beginning of July. Aldéo Major and Anatole Turcotte were already there. To get to my land there was a trail six miles long in the bush going over beaver dams and through many detours. A forest fire had occurred previously burning the sod and leaving very solid stumps.

When my neighbors hired the machinery from "Little Smoky Settlement" to open a few acres, I decided to do likewise but this experience proved inefficient and after about twenty acres I thanked them. In October, in partnership with Paul-Emile Maisonneuve, we bought a Cat

No30 and the next year we opened 125 acres each and over one hundred for neighbors. During the holidays my two brothers, Gabriel and Elphège, then attending College St-Jean, broke one hundred acres for P.-E. Maisonneuve and as much for me with the help of a John Deere D Tractor. In 1948, first crop; a little more than 100 acres of registered Montcalm barley. August 15, threat of frost. We then decided to create smoke hoping to protect our crops from the frost. It was to no avail. At nine o'clock there was already frost on machinery. We emptied the water from tractors in a tub and went to bed. The next morning there was one inch of ice in the tub. That was the end of the crop for that year. Next winter we were all in lumber camps hoping to earn enough to start over in the spring. Life had taken a certain pattern: opening land, small crops, lumber camps! Seeding clover and alfalfa helped our soils to the extent of getting from good to medium yields.

Marie-Paule went to school in Donnelly. At the time of our marriage we were also working the family farm and this until we moved to the homestead.

Continued by MARIE-PAULE BOULET

On a Saturday May 9, 1956 we settled down on the lease. The next day, which was Mother's Day a cold wind was blowing through our house which was not insulated. We had five girls aged ten months to five years and I had them in big coats and covered with blankets. There were no buds to be seen, thus a late spring. The move was made gradually the week before. The road from Donnelly to Guy not so bad but from Guy it was through bush and by trail. We also had hogs: ten sows and a hundred piglets. They were all over ... in the yard, the bush, the troughs and on wash day under my temporary line eating sheets, towels and diapers and this until we fenced them in. Naturally, there was no power, no running water. To think that I thought our parents were the settlers! In 1956 only 150 acres were opened; we continued to open land and prepare it for cultivation. Good years, good and bad years passed on; in October of 1957 there were 25 inches of snow; not a bushel was saved. That October our first son was born.

During winters from 1960 to 1963, Bernard worked on bridges as a welder for \$ 1,65 an hour. We gradually bought more land: in 1961 from Georges Cartier, in 1966 from B. Champagne.

In 1964-65, Bernard constructed his root rakes that we called "Dinosaurs".

In 1968 we had a big wheat crop that we painfully harvested, in November, because it was

all crushed by the snow. The grain was piled outside and in January 1969 Bernard started to build a dryer, the first one in Guy. During this construction we appreciated the free help from Henri Johnson and Albert Parent. This dryer burned down on January 10, 1980.

In 1978 we bought Earl Kellie's land. Without neglecting children and home, I always helped with outside work. I did almost everything.

In education, we gave it our all. We tried to give our children religious and linguistic convictions. Reading was part of our life; oral reading especially at bedtime and later on, silent reading. Our children all graduated from Routhier School in Falher.

We served our local and regional community as best we could in different organizations: A.C.F.A., A.E.B.A., Action Catholique Rurale, School Trustees, Parents' committee, Ladies of Ste-Anne, Church trustees, Agricultural Society, Falher Seed Cleaning Plant, Falher Co-op. Bernard is also a member of the Sports Committee and a Church trustee. Lately we are less involved. We presently are members of the local and regional liturgy committee.

We have never regretted our move to Guy even when times were difficult and despite the travelling distance. Proof is that we are semi-retired in Guy on a smaller lot where projects of all kinds come forth and where we enjoy amateur golf.

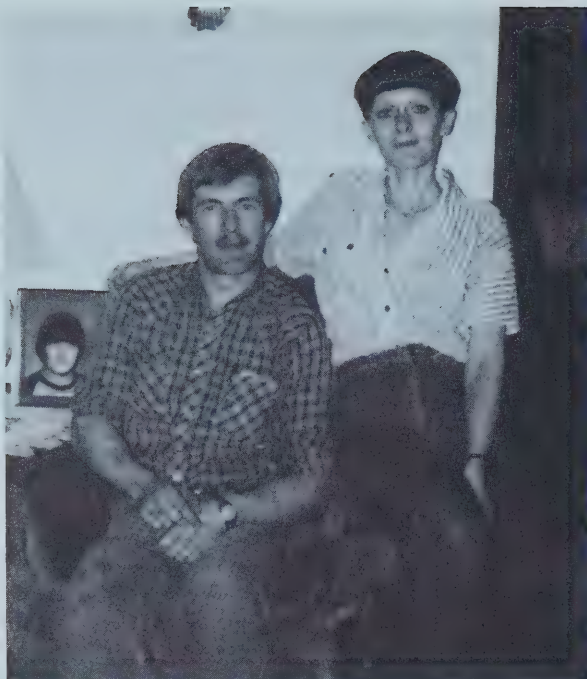
BOULET, GUY ELPHEGE & STEDEL, DIANNE MARY

by Guy Boulet

I was born October 2, 1953 in Donnelly to Elphege and Denise Fillion. I am eldest of 12 children. We were raised on the farm one mile northwest of Donnelly. All my school years from grades one to twelve were spent in Donnelly. The one school year which comes to mind first is 1967. That was my first year of high school and it was Canada's Centennial year. I remember missing the Centennial Caravan because my brother Andy and I were both in the McLennan hospital with yellow jaundice. We watched it go by on the road from our hospital room.

My first job when I left school was as a welder's helper on a small pipeline just outside of Rainbow Lake. I was making big money then, \$2.75 an hour. We worked 12 hour days for 2 weeks including Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

When I came out I had made over \$500.00 clear. That was a lot of money in 1971. Next I worked on the water reservoir in Fairview running a "Cat" D8 14A pulling a Letourneau high



Guy & Dianne Boulet.

arch scraper. That "Cat" only had a brake on the left side and had to be started by pushing with another "Cat". Needless to say I soon learned how not to get into a bind. That old "Cat's" exhaust threw more light when it was working hard at night than its one head-light did. After that job I had a few other odd jobs but the bug for running heavy equipment was in me.

In 1972, I was one of the first in a crew of 100 or so men who were hired by Proctor & Gamble to start their logging operations south of Grande Prairie. Starting wages were \$600.00 a month. We spent the first two months in a classroom learning how to log. When we went to work in January 1973 we had a total of two days of actual experience on equipment which was mostly new to everybody. In the next 7 years that I spent with Proctor & Gamble in the bush, I operated all kinds of sophisticated equipment. We always had the newest equipment on the market, the latest innovations, some of which we were testing for the first time under real conditions. It was fascinating for me because I love machinery. In Feb. 1973 I met Dianne Stedel in Beaverlodge. On May 11, 1974 we were married in Valhalla Centre. She had been born and raised on a mixed farm in the Hythe - Valhalla Centre area.

In December 1978 I quit Proctor & Gamble and bought my first gravel truck. Times were booming so there was lots of work. Our son Scott Guy Boulet, was born December 29, 1979. He

died September 21, 1980 when we were involved in a head-on highway collision by Wembley. Dianne had extensive back injuries and burns to her hands. I had a damaged right knee which prevented me from working for a year after the accident. Then I couldn't do heavy labour or run heavy equipment. I then worked for R. Angus in Grande Prairie in the parts department. That was another good experience.

In March of 1983 I was laid off from R. Angus. The slowdown had forced just about everybody in Grande Prairie to trim staff and expenses in order to stay in business. I had always wanted to come back home to farm and now I had a chance. We had a bit of money so we bought Tony Dietzen's homestead N¹/₂-4-74-21-W5. This was right by the highway #34 and it had a good shelter from the west for the building site. I already had a line of machinery as I had been renting land with my father-in-law. The open land was fairly new and rocky. Lots of rocks! Since then we have opened the rest of the half and are now trying to clean it up. In a few more years it should look pretty good. Dianne has spent many hours of hard work cleaning up the yard and planting flowers and trees, keeping everything neat and tidy, the grass short. I hope that someday I can have the rest of the farm as well manicured as Dianne keeps the yard.

* * *

Guy, l'aîné d'une famille de douze enfants, est né à Donnelly. Il fit ses études de la première année jusqu'à douzième à l'école de Donnelly.

Mon premier emploi en sortant de l'école fut comme assistant-soudeur pour les compagnies d'huile. A la suite, j'ai travaillé au réservoir d'eau à Fairview. Etant fils de fermier, j'avais de l'expérience sur les machines et je travaillais comme opérateur de tracteur à chenille.

En 1972 je fus engagé par Proctor and Gamble de Grande Prairie, où j'ai travaillé pendant sept années, comme opérateur de machines lourdes.

C'est en février 1973 que j'ai rencontré celle qui devint mon épouse, Dianne Stedel de Beaverlodge. Le vingt neuf décembre 1979, notre premier et seul enfant est né. Malheureusement, le vingt et un septembre 1980, un sérieux accident d'auto causa la mort de notre cher petit, laissant ma femme gravement brûlée et le dos brisé, et moi avec un genoux endommagé.

J'ai toujours aimé la ferme et en 1983, j'ai eu la chance d'acheter N¹/₂-4-74-21-W5 alors nous nous sommes dirigés vers Guy où nous demeurons et travaillons fort à améliorer notre entreprise.

BOURGEOIS, EMILE & DEMEULE, DENISE

by Denise Bourgeois

Emile is the youngest son of Robert and Carmeline Lambert. He attended school in Whiteland which was just one quarter of a mile west of his home. He later attended Langlois School, travelling on the bus.



Emile with successful hunt.

He loved the land and soon became engaged in farming even before he married Denise Demeule, daughter of Gerard and Bernadette Gagnon of McLennan, in 1972.

Emile and Denise's home is on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -30-75-20-W5 where Emile's parents homesteaded. The couple's love for animals and the land results in their engaging in mixed farming as a sideline; the children help care for the pigs, cows, horses and dogs.

Emile cultivates six quarters of land so when harvest time comes Denise helps her husband in the field.

It is a pleasant way of life but is certainly not a self-supporting endeavor in 1987. So Emile works full time as a butcher at Viden's in McLennan and Denise works as RNA at the Sacred Heart Hospital, also in McLennan.

Emile Bourgeois; b.19-09-1948 m.19-08-1972
Denise Demeule; b.25-09-1952

CHILDREN:

1. Lynne; b.04-06-1977
2. Nicole; b.18-04-1979
3. Clement; b.12-03-1981

* * *

Emile, fils benjamin de Robert Bourgeois et Carmeline Lambert, fit ses études aux écoles Whiteland et Langlois.



Pail size puppies Clement, Lynne, Nicole Bourgeois.

Emile et son épouse, Denise Demeule, demeurent sur la ferme paternelle et cultivent six quarts de terre.

Emile travaille aussi comme boucher au magasin Viden's de McLennan. Denise travaille comme RNA à l'hôpital du Sacré Coeur à McLennan.

BOURGEOIS, JOSEPH & PELLERIN, DORILLA

by Jeanine Bourgeois Tenove

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Bourgeois left for Falher this week. They were feted by their many friends for the past two weeks. A large number of neighbours gave them a farewell last Wednesday, and another group foregathered a few days before the Auction Sale, December 4. The loss of this excellent family to St. Paul will be Falher's gain.

St. Paul Journal
December 19, 1929

So it was that Joseph and Dorilla Bourgeois and their family of thirteen children in 1929 left St. Paul, Alberta, where they had resided for 17



Joseph and Dorilla Bourgeois.

years, to come to settle on homesteads 10 miles south of Falher.

The move had been prompted by articles appearing every so often in the 1920s in "La Survivance" advertising the Peace River district as "une fertile région de colonisation", and giving descriptions of what was considered the best farmland in Alberta. Joseph and his two oldest sons, Jules and Robert, made an exploratory trip in 1927 and returned to St. Paul with glowing reports of a bright new future awaiting them "dans le Peace River". Joseph, Jules and Robert filed for homesteads in the spring of 1928.

1929 was not the right time to be moving, but who could have predicted in the spring of that year that there would be a stock market crash. "La Survivance" in May, 1929 was reporting that the newcomers of the Falher-Donnelly region were full of enthusiasm at the prospect of a bright future on their homesteads, that they were finding it easy to open up their lands and that within no time they would be able to fulfill their ambition. In the summer of 1929, the price of wheat was \$1.22 a bushel for No. 1 Northern, and in August, it had gone as high as \$1.45. Not even in the fall of 1929 was there any mention in the local newspaper of what had happened on Wall Street in New York. However, as prices began to fall in

1930, the optimism of the spring of 1929 began to waver. By January, 1931 the price of wheat had fallen to 36 cents a bushel for No. 1 Northern. By December of 1932 prices had dropped to an all time low, No.1 Northern Wheat was now selling for 23 ½ cents. Those who raised cattle found their choice heifers selling for \$3.00 to \$3.25 and their hogs for \$2.70. With so little money to show for their efforts, even though the prices of goods were dropping, families could no longer make ends meet. Jos and Dorilla Bourgeois suffered the same fate. So it was that shrinking markets and a drastic drop in grain prices dealt the Jos Bourgeois family a stunning blow. Their dreams of improving their condition – the reason they had come to the Peace River – were dashed. Potatoes and salted pork often became the mainstay in the winter, and, fortunately for the good hunting grounds of the region, moose and deer meat came to the rescue many a time. As a result of this need, Jules became a good hunter. Seldom did he return from hunting without his moose or deer.

Coming from a well established farmstead in St. Paul, Dorilla had to suffer more than a few irritations as a result of this move, not the least being the lack of good well water; the gumbo which can be as slippery as soap when raining, sticky as glue when it stops raining and hard as clay when it dries; and the swarms of mosquitoes always close at hand in the uncleared bush.

Two more children were born to Joseph and Dorilla Bourgeois not long after they arrived in the region. On February 9th, 1930, Dorilla gave birth to her 14th child, Henri. He was the first baby to be born in the McLennan hospital, and on February 26, 1931, Lévi the 15th child and 12th son was born. Later that year, Jos and Dorilla were to find themselves facing the greatest sorrow yet experienced in their lives. A few days before Christmas, 1931, they were burying their seventh child, Richard.

Up until the summer of 1932, the Joseph Bourgeois family had lived on Robert's homestead in the Ballater area but during that summer they moved to their own homestead in Forest View. A bigger house had been built; they would be nearer the school, in this case the Whiteland; they would be nearer the Church of Guy; and there was water! Besides being on their own land, it was important for Jos and Dorilla to be nearer the church and school. No longer having a car, and given the conditions of the roads in winter and when it rained, it often was impossible to go to church, to school, and activities that centered around these two pillars of the community.

The Tree Grows - The Ninth Generation

BOURGEOIS



JOSEPH



DORILLA

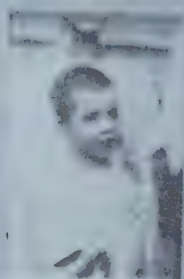
PELLIERIN



JULES



LEO



RICHARD



CLUIFF



JAMES



ROBERT



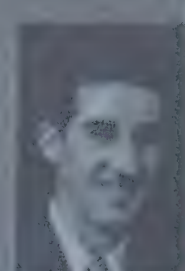
ROLAND



LILLIE



JACQUES



HENRI



MARGUERITE



JOFFRE



BERNARD



JOSEPH



LEVI

Famille Jos Bourgeois.

In the fall of 1932, Jos Bourgeois had been elected choir director and through his efforts and those of the choir, they were able to sing the first Christmas Mass celebrated in the church of Guy. Not only were the worshippers to be treated to the traditional French Christmas hymns, but also to Polish hymns for the Polish settlers of the community. That year, practically the whole community gathered at the home of Aurèle Lambert – known to be, according to a reporting in “La Survivance” a most polite, gallant and hospitable host. — for the réveillon. The Lamberts lived across the road from the Bourgeois, and no doubts Jos and Dorilla were among those who took part in this celebration.

It was the post office located in the Lambert house that was called Forest View. Mr. Lambert was the postmaster for years. Twice a week he would go to Falher to pick up the mail, and sometimes passengers along the way. It was a full day's journey from Forest View to Falher and back. Later in 1939, Robert Bourgeois married Carmeline, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Aurèle Lambert.

Even though times were pretty hard in the winter 1932–33, the important milestones in life were still celebrated. Such was the case when Jos and Dorilla celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary, January 13, 1933. Surrounded by their fourteen children, neighbors and friends, the celebration began by a mass of Thanksgiving where they were eulogized for having fulfilled their duty as good parents. A celebration feast followed with the best food people could provide given the condition and times.

Jos had bought livestock while in St. Paul and little by little began to do the same in Falher-Guy-Donnelly region. So it was that in 1935 the family moved to Donnelly to be near the railway in order to ship livestock to Edmonton.

In 1939, having decided to pursue the cattle buying business for good and with an eye to establishing his remaining sons in it, Joseph and Dorilla decided to move to St. Albert which was a more promising livestock buying region. The wanderings of the Bourgeois family in Alberta had gone full circle. Jos was back to his first home in the West, St. Albert, where he first arrived from St. Léonard D'Aston, Québec as a young lad of thirteen in 1900, and where Dorilla Pellerin from St. Célestin first arrived as a young bride in 1908.

They have fifteen children: Jules, Robert, Marguerite, Léo, Roland, Joffre, Richard, Lillie, Bernard, Cécile, Jacques, Joseph, Gaston, Henri et Lévi.

The two oldest sons, Jules and Robert, con-

tinued to live on their land in the parish of Guy the rest of their lives.

* * *

En 1929, Joseph et Dorilla Bourgeois avec leurs treize enfants quittaient St. Paul, AB., où ils avaient vécu pendant dix-sept ans, pour venir s'établir sur des "Homesteads" à dix milles au sud de Falher.

Ça n'était pas le bon moment de se déplacer, mais personne ne s'attendait à l'échec du marché financier. Jos et Dorilla subirent le même sort que bien d'autres. Leurs beaux rêves pour une vie meilleure furent anéantis.

Ayant quitté une belle ferme bien organisée Dorilla a beaucoup souffert – le manque de la bonne eau du puits, la terre glaise glissante comme du savon à la pluie, collante après la pluie et dure comme pierre une fois sèche et les maringouins toujours présent dans cette terre non défrichée!

Deux autres enfants naissaient dans la région peu après leur arrivée. En 1931, ils eurent la douleur d'enterrer leur septième enfant, quelques jours avant Noël.

Depuis son arrivée la famille Bourgeois avait vécu sur le "homestead" de Robert à Ballater mais à l'été 1932 elle s'établit sur son propre "homestead" à Forest View.

Malgré les temps durs des années 1932–33, Jos et Dorilla célébraient leur noces d'argent le 13 janvier 1933 entourés de leurs quatorze enfants, d'amis et de voisins.

A St. Paul Jos avait acheté pour revendre avec profit des bêtes à corne et petit à petit il se mit à faire de même dans la région de Falher-Guy-Donnelly.

En 1939, Joseph et Dorilla s'en allèrent vivre à St. Albert où l'achat du bétail était plus propice. Aussi Jos comptait aider ses fils à s'établir. Il se retrouva au premier village où il s'était établi en Alberta, après avoir quitté St-Léonard D'Aston à Québec, alors qu'il n'avait que treize ans. Ce fut aussi le premier endroit où Dorilla Pellerin avait mis les pieds comme nouvelle mariée en 1908.

Les deux aînés – Jules et Robert vécurent sur leur ferme à Guy jusqu'à leur mort.

BOURGEOIS, JULES & BOISVERT, LILLIAN

by Jeanine Bourgeois Tenove

In 1928, the oldest son of Joseph and Dorilla Bourgeois had taken a homestead 10 miles south of Falher in the Ballater region. He moved permanently in the region, along with his family, the Joseph Bourgeois family, in 1929. Omer and Lau-



Jules and Lillian Bourgeois (1955).

rette Boisvert and their nine children lived $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north. Many of the Boisvert's nine children were the same age and became chums. Some of the children became friends more than others! So it was that Lillian Boisvert, the 7th child of Omer and Laurette, and Jules Bourgeois were married in 1933 in Guy. A wedding during the depression meant a modest celebration. There certainly was no hope for a white wedding dress which had become fashionable in the 1920s let alone "un voyage de noce". In many cases there was not even enough money to buy a small luxury item such as a film to take a wedding picture.

The depression did mean having to put up with hardships and deprivations especially for a young couple starting out. Just at a time when modern conveniences were making the housewife's work easier, a step had to be taken backwards. For the young housewife, such as my mother, Lillian, the depression meant having to wash clothes by hand because there was no money to buy a gas operated washing machine, let alone a hand operated one. It meant having to do with next to no furniture. It meant not being able to order what the Eaton's Catalogue had to offer when it came out every spring and every fall. No matter how much Lillian leafed through "la bible des femmes", as the Eaton's Catalogue was known, from cover to cover, it was all to no avail for there was no money. For many people during this time, it meant having no car, and for some no wagon, buggy or team of horses. In those early days of their marriage, Jules and Lillian had only one saddle horse, a temperamental

and independent horse, at that, and quite unsuitable for any lengthy journey, such as to Falher. When having to go to town for staples, it meant hitching a ride. A reliable ride was always with Mr. Lambert, the postmaster who faithfully came by twice a week.

Hard as the times were during the depression, most farm families did not starve. So it was with Jules and Lillian. If it had been a good year for gardens, potatoes, carrots, turnips and cabbages were stored in the root cellar. Lillian canned peas and beans as well as wild strawberries, raspberries and saskatoons which she picked by the gallons. There was usually milk, cream, butter, and eggs, and certainly plenty of moose and deer meat, either fresh or canned. To be sure jello, canned tomatoes, peanut butter, ketchup, bologna and cheddar cheese were a luxury, and seldom graced the dinner table – perhaps at Christmas time. As a last statement about eating moose and deer meat, I must say that Lillian never totally acquired a taste for it. It was not until years later that she would eat wild game meat again – when it became fashionable to prepare wild meat as a delicacy. Until then she used to say, "moose meat, let me tell you, I had my fill of it during the depression!"

Even though there was a lack of money and conveniences during the depression, Lillian recalls that there was no lack of social activities and the spirit of togetherness. In the summer time there were the Little Smoky River Sunday picnics. Each family living within 6 or 8 miles of the river would pile into a wagon and make their way to the river for a day of swimming, visiting and fun. Perhaps during the week the neighbors



R.1 Julianne, Lillian, Jeannine. R.2 Carmen, Roger, Jules, Paul and Paulette.

gathered for a softball game – with long summer evenings, they would play ball until eleven o'clock at night. Dances were held both in the summer and winter – either at Edgheill School or at Ballater School. The music was provided by the local fiddler. Everyone danced, the old as well as the young, for children were taken to these dances. How well I remember the excitement of these dances and how hard I tried to stay awake to take it all in, but more often than not, I fell asleep on the benches. Lillian tells how the neighbors often met to play cards in wintertime, 500 and whist being the favorite games. Last but not least, she says how the radio provided its share of entertainment and a reason for the people to gather. Having no electricity, they would have to rely on battery sets. Some of these old models required three different kinds of batteries. Needless to say, the radio was only turned on in the evening to listen to favorite programs. Since not everyone owned a radio, neighbors gathered to listen to their favorite radio programs of “Fibber McGee and Molly”, “Major Beau”, “The Eddie Cantor Hour”, “Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy”, and “Gang Busters”.

Jules and Lillian over the years became actively involved in the parish of Guy and the region. When a convent was being built in Guy, Jules hauled gravel for its construction. My sister Paulette and brother Paul, who were among the first boarders when its doors first opened in 1951, recall many experiences of their life at the convent, a far cry from life at home. Paul, not yet six years old, wanted no part of this life of convent and school. One day he hid from the nuns, not wanting to go to school. When he was finally found in the furnace room of the church after a frantic search, his meek explanation to, “What are you doing there?”, was, “Je joue à la cachette” (I am playing hide-and-seek). Paulette for her part did not like standing in a long line up waiting her turn for the washroom. Needless to say when it came to the little ones, nature could not always wait its turn! Though convents were built to enable farm children living too far from school to obtain an education, the regimented life was never easy, especially for young children. As a last note on the convent, and with no offense meant to those who worked so hard at its construction and bringing it about, it is fair to say that the children of the district rejoiced with the coming of school buses, not the least Paulette and Paul.

In 1952 when the Smoky River Municipal District was first formed, Jules was elected as one of the councillors. Later, from 1955–1962, he was

to be its Reeve. Lillian for her part was very active in the parish in the 1950s and 1960s in organizing or making contribution to the yearly Church Bazaar in the fall and the picnic in the summer. The bazaar and picnic at Guy were well known throughout the region for the good food that was served. It goes without saying that this was one feature that attracted many people. As a child I remember looking forward to these church picnics, with the baseball game, races, not to forget to mention the hot dogs and ice cream, almost the only time of the year for such treats. Never will Lillian forget the parish of Guy's Silver Jubilee celebration. She was in charge of the dinner which was to be held after High Mass. Many guests had been invited, not the least being Monseigneur Routhier, the bishop of the diocese. Most parishoners were also going to be there, and because of the reputation that preceded it, all were looking forward to one of those celebrated Guy turkey dinners. Lillian had seen to it that all had been carefully planned and arranged, some were to bring salads, others were to bring pies and cakes, buns, hot dishes and all those condiments that add that special touch to a meal, in short nothing but the turkey would be cooked at Church early in the morning. Lillian recalls coming home around midnight before the big day, very tired but quite certain that all had been taken care of. But at nine o'clock in the morning of the celebration, suddenly, there was panic in the kitchen. Lo and behold who ever was supposed to turn on the ovens at 6:00 a.m., had forgotten. What to do! “Ah Mon Doux, qu'est-ce qu'on va faire?” cried quite a few. In three hours, dinner would have to be served! So it was Lillian decided there was only one thing to do, cut up the turkeys and cook them faster, along with a prayer to St. Guy, the patron saint of the parish. Dinner was delayed by a ½ hour but with Monseigneur Routhier greeting this person and that person, and parishoners chatting here and there, no one noticed the delay, let alone the commotion there had been in the kitchen!

As for the children of Jules and Lillian Bourgeois, I would like to say that we have a fond attachment to the parish of Guy where many of our roots are. Whenever we see the church steeple loom in the distance as we near Guy on our way to Falher to visit our mother, all sorts of souvenirs flood our memories: the wonderful church picnics and bazaars with all the excitement and good food; the visiting with friends after mass on Sundays; the choir singing, especially our uncle, Robert Bourgeois, singing “Minuit Chrétien” at midnight mass; and for me because I am older, the booming voice of Mr. Jos.

Lagacé, known as “Le gros Lagacé”, on the church steps after mass making all the announcements of upcoming social, economic and political events of the week; and for Paulette and Paul, even the convent days and school are now a source of fond memories.

Jules passed away October 10, 1971, at the age of 62, after suffering a massive stroke. He had been one of the pioneers of “le sud de Falher” in the parish of Guy and was well known throughout the region. Lillian, after having sold the family farm to her son Paul, moved to Falher in 1974. There, in 1974, she became the matron of the Villa Beauséjour, a lodge for senior citizens, until her retirement in 1983. She was aptly eulogized in the Falher–Donnelly history book as “la matronne rayonnante”.

Lillian is still living in Falher in a very cozy little house, a far cry from her first home in her early married years. No longer does she get up in the morning in the winter to find ice on the water pail and wash basin, frost in the cracks and on the nails, and having to light a fire in the stove while shivering and with teeth clattering. When her family all gather around – there are 23 of us now, the little house bursts at the seams and one can hear inside much laughter and merriment. Such was the case recently when we all gathered on Thanksgiving Weekend, October 11–13, 1986, to celebrate her 70th birthday.

Jules Bourgeois; n.15–12–1908 m.16–07–1933
d.10–10–1971 Lillian Boisvert; n.21–10–1916
CHILDREN:

1. Jeanine; n.07–01–1934 m.20–07–1957
Wendell Tenove; n.28–06–1929
d.1–09–1987 (Calgary, AB)
They have two children, Lorianne and Wendell Werner
2. Paulette; n.28–06–1944 m.30–08–1968
Wayne Emison; n.27–08–1946 (Langley, B.C.)
They have two children, Chantelle, Ryan
3. Paul; n.15–12–1945 m.02–02–1968
Yvonne Tanasichuk
4. Julianne; n.25–11–1950 m.11–11–1967
Allan Lorenz; n.25–03–1948 (Grande Prairie, AB)
They have three children, Karie, Wade, Alison.
5. Carmen; n.26–07–1952 m.–07–07–1973
Robin Mungall; n.28–10–1950 (St-Albert, AB)
They have two children, Michelle, Robin Andrew.
6. Roger; n.29–11–1961 m.03–08–1985
Alison Tenove (Grande Prairie)

* * *

En 1928, le fils aîné de Joseph et Dorilla Bourgeois, prit un “homestead” dans la région de Ballater. Il s’y installa définitivement ainsi que ses parents en 1929. Omer et Laurette Boisvert et leurs neuf enfants vivaient à un demi-mille au nord de là. Plusieurs des enfants des deux familles avaient le même âge; et ils devinrent bons amis. Ainsi donc, Lillian Boisvert et Jules Bourgeois s’épousaient en 1933, à Guy.

Les temps durs causèrent bien des ennuis au jeune couple au début de leur mariage. Jules et Lillian n’avait qu’un cheval de selle – à tempérament maussade et donc on ne pouvait se permettre de longues randonnées avec lui.

On n’avait pas beaucoup d’argent, mais Lillian se souvient que les activités sociales et l’esprit d’unité ne manquaient pas. Jules et Lillian prirent part aux activités de la paroisse de Guy et dans la région. En 1952 Jules fut l’un des premiers conseillers élus quand la municipalité de Smoky River #130 fut organisée; il en fut le président de 1955 à 1962.

Lillian aidait aux bazars paroissiaux à l’automne et aux pique-niques à l’été, elle fut en charge du banquet lors de la célébration du 25e anniversaire de la paroisse.

Les enfants gardent de bons souvenirs de leur séjour au pensionnat et à l’école.

BOURGEOIS, PAUL & TANASICHUK, YVONNE

by Paul

A son of Jules Bourgeois and Lillian Boisvert, Paul grew up on the family farm two miles north and three miles west of Guy. He attended school at Guy, Falher and McLennan.

Paul’s first school years in 1950–51 were spent in Guy convent with his sister Paulette. Even at the young age of 5 he did not want to attend school; so he hid in a wooden barrel and stayed there all day. Every one searched for him thinking that he was lost or drowned, he later let himself be found by his sister Paulette.

His teacher Sister Thérèse de Castille was so relieved and happy to see that he was safe and unharmed, that she never punished him for his prank.

After school years he farmed with his Dad, and worked for seismographic companies. In 1964 he purchased his first quarter of land (Se–14–76–21) from his parents.

In 1968 he married Yvonne Tanasichuk, daughter of Matt Tanasichuk of Nampa, and Mary Jane Beattie Kirkpatrick, of Dumfries Scotland.



Yvonne & Paul Bourgeois.

Yvonne born in Dumfries, Scotland arrived in Canada in August of 1946, when she was eight months old. She attended Girouxville, and Guay School and later completed her schooling in Peace River.

After their marriage Paul and Yvonne moved to California for the winter. On their return to Falher Paul worked for Federal Grain, and Yvonne at the I.G.A. store.

In the fall of 1968 they bought a quarter of land (SW-3-77-21) six miles south of Falher, from Charles Morin, where they made their home for five years. In the winter of 1972, they bought a half section of land (S $\frac{1}{2}$ -5-76-21) previously owned by Hervé Drouin, which they later resold.

In 1974 several years after the death of his father, Jules, they sold (SW-3-77-21) and (SE-14-76-21-) and bought the family farm, (N $\frac{1}{2}$ -17-76-21-) and (SE-17-76-21-) from Paul's mother Lillian Bourgeois. They also bought a quarter of land (SW-3-75-21-) from Armand Thibodeau.

They moved to the family farm and lived there until 1985. During this time Paul farmed, and also worked for the Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance.

In 1982, they sold the family farm and bought

a half section of land (N $\frac{1}{2}$ -29-76-21) seven miles south of Falher, where they moved in the fall of 1986 and where they are presently living. Paul is now employed by the M.D. of Smoky River, as Weed Inspector, and Yvonne is employed at the A.L.C.B. (Falher's Liquor Store.)

Paul Bourgeois; n.15-12-1945 m.02-02-1968

Yvonne Tanasichuk; n.22-01-1946

* * *

Fils de Jules Bourgeois et Lillian Boisvert, Paul fait ses études à Guy, Falher et McLennan. Ensuite il travaille avec son père, et en 1964 il achète du terrain de ses parents.

En 1968, Paul et Yvonne vivent en Californie et reviennent à Falher au printemps. Ils achètent du terrain et y demeurent cinq ans.

En 1974 ils achètent la ferme paternelle et y demeurent jusqu'à sa vente en 1985. Paul travaille pour Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance.

En 1986 ils s'installent sur une ferme à sept miles au sud de Falher. Paul travaille pour la municipalité de Smoky River et Yvonne pour la Commission des Liqueurs.

BOURGEOIS, RENE & REMILLARD, YVETTE

by Yvette

Rene was born May 23, 1943 in St. Albert, AB. He is the third child of Robert and Carmeline Lambert. He attended school at Whiteland from grades one to nine then went to Langlois School



Rene & Yvette Bourgeois.

in Guy. He is now farming full time and also works out for a seismic company in the winter months.

On December 2, 1967 he married Yvette Remillard, daughter of Theodore and Marie-Anne Henley. The couple lived in Falher for five months then moved on their farm in Guy where they still reside today. Yvette worked for Smoky River M.D. #130 as secretary from 1967 to 1980.



Raymond, Danielle, Robert.

They adopted a son in 1976 and a daughter in 1979 and had a son in 1980. The three children attend G.P. Vanier School in Donnelly.

Rene J. Bourgeois: n.23-05-1943

m.02-12-1967

Yvette Remillard: n.23-11-1946

CHILDREN:

1. Robert Theodore: n.26-07-1976
2. Danielle Doris: n.10-01-1979
3. Raymond Rene: n.19-10-1980

BOURGEOIS, RICHARD & FERRIS, SHARI

by Richard

Richard was raised south of Guy by his parents, Robert and Carmeline Bourgeois. Most of his schooling was at Whiteland School, and one year at Notre Dame College in Falher. Richard helped his dad farm throughout his teenage years. In his early twenties he purchased a half section of land on the south bank of the Little Smoky River. He continued farming several quarters of land south of the river and also purchased a quarter section from his uncle, Maurice Lambert in 1967. Here he resided with his wife, Shari Mae, whom he married in 1964. Shari was from the High Prairie district.



Richard and Shari Bourgeois (1967).

Throughout their early marriage Richard did much custom breaking and was busy opening new land for himself (east of the home quarter) which was taken as a homestead lease at the time of their marriage. Shari also had a homestead lease south of the Little Smoky River. Most of this land was opened to farming by hard work and determination; rocks and roots were picked by hand throughout the two half sections. Richard also farmed a half section of land in the White-mud area. This land was purchased from Jerry Doucette in 1968.

In 1966 the first child of Richard and Shari was born, Marlene Doris. Marlene grew up on the family farm, she had most of her schooling in the Langlois school in Guy. Her junior high school was at G.P. Vanier in Donnelly. Marlene was very active in sports, her favorite was track and field. She also enjoyed horseback riding, skidooing and motorcycle riding during her teenage years. When Marlene was fourteen, her first job was working for Gerry Paradis who owns Gerry's Apiaries; she enjoyed this new experience of working summer holidays and more so the paycheques. She then went back the following summer.

In 1970 Richard and Shari's second daughter, Michelle Doreen, was born in High Prairie. Michelle's schooling was also in the Langlois school. Michelle attended G.P. Vanier for one year. Michelle, like her older sister, mom and dad, enjoyed camping, hunting and skidooing in the winter. Michelle was also very athletic and enjoyed track and field throughout her school years.

Shari drove a school bus for fourteen years while her girls were growing up, she was employed by the High Prairie School Division. I'm sure that there are not very many roads in the Guy area that Shari hasn't driven during those years. During the summer months she was busy



Marlene & Michelle Bourgeois enjoying one of their favorite passtime.

driving kids to swimming lessons at Winnagami Lake and also McLennan. Richard worked for Chevron Geophysics during the winter months helping to cover farm expenses. This seismic company hired Richard to clear lines with his John Deere tractor and slash

cutlines with chain saws, mainly to clean the lines after drilling had passed through the area. Richard is presently working for Chevron.

In 1981 the farm was sold to Edmund Kaupp from Raymond, AB. Richard, Shari and their girls then moved to Morinville and presently reside in their new home.

Richard Bougeois: n.11-09-1941
m.13-06-1964

Shari Mae Ferris: n.31-12-1943

CHILDREN:

1. Marlene Doris: n.20-07-1966
2. Michelle Doreen: n.18-01-1970

* * *

Richard fréquenta l'école de Whiteland et une année au Collège Notre Dame de Falher. Pendant son adolescence il aida à la ferme. Dans la vingtaine il acheta une demi-section au sud de la rivière Petite Smoky. Il acheta aussi

un quart de section de son oncle Maurice Lambert en 1967. Il demeura ici avec sa femme Shari Mae. Shari était du district de High Prairie.

Au début de leur mariage, Richard fit du "cassage" pour les autres et continua à ouvrir du terrain pour lui-même. Shari avait aussi un "homestead" au sud de la Petite Smoky. La plupart de ce terrain fut ouvert par un travail ardu et de la détermination, ramassant racines et roches à la main sur la demi-section. Richard cultivait aussi une demi-section à Whitemud. Ce terrain fut acheté de Jerry Doucette en 1968.

Shari conduisit un autobus scolaire pendant quatorze ans alors que ses deux filles grandissaient. Durant l'été elle conduisait les enfants aux cours de natation au lac Winagami et à McLennan.

Richard travaillait pour Chevron Geophysics durant l'hiver défrichant des lignes avec son tracteur John Deere et nettoyant les lignes après que le forage ait été fait dans la région. Il travaille présentement pour Chevron.

En 1981 la ferme fut vendue à Edmund Kaupp de Raymond, Alberta. Richard, Shari et leurs filles ont ensuite déménagé à Morinville et demeurent dans leur nouvelle maison.

BOURGEOIS, ROBERT & LAMBERT, CARMELINE

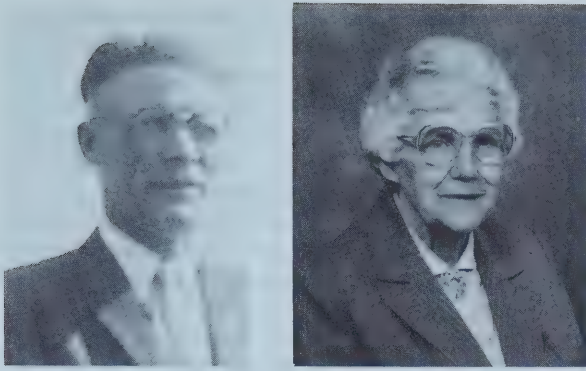
par Carméline Bourgeois

Robert, fils de Joseph Bourgeois et de Dorilla Pellerin, est né à St-Albert, AB. le 27 février 1910. Quelques années plus tard, ses parents déménagèrent à St-Paul, AB. C'est de là qu'en 1927 Robert et son frère Jules, ayant entendu parler du beau district de Rivière La Paix, décidèrent de venir s'installer par ici. En effet, ils prirent chacun un "homestead" dans les environs de Ballater, au sud de Falher.

En 1929, leurs parents, Joseph et Dorilla, avec leurs autres enfants vinrent rejoindre leurs deux aînés à Ballater. En 1932, la famille déménagea sur un "homestead" qu'avait pris Dorilla, le SW 30-75-20, près de Forest View, afin d'être plus près de l'école Whiteland, située sur le "homestead" voisin. En 1935 Robert vendit son "homestead" à Ballater et acheta celui de sa mère, car la famille désirait déménager à Donnelly, ce qu'elle fit l'année suivante.

Moi, Carméline, fille d'Aurèle Lambert et d'Elmire Brulotte, je suis née à St-Fortunat, comté Wolfe, P.Q., le 16 avril 1911. J'étais arrivée à Guy en 1931 avec ma famille. Nous avons la ferme voisine de celle des Bourgeois, à Forest View.

En 1939, Robert et moi décidions d'unir



Carméline Borgeois, Robert Borgeois.

notre destinée pour la vie. Notre mariage fut béni le 8 février par l'abbé Camille St-Pierre, alors curé de Guy. On s'installa dans la maison bâtie pour la famille Borgeois et où Robert demeurait déjà. C'était une grande maison rustique, à deux étages, dont la finition restait à faire, mais assez confortable. Deux semaines plus tard, nous avions notre première grande épreuve. Dans l'après-midi, alors que Robert ainsi que Papa et mes frères étaient partis en corvée faire du bois de poêle à quelques milles de chez nous, je m'aperçois que le haut de la maison était tout en feu. Les hommes, ayant vu la fumée et le feu, accoururent en toute hâte, ainsi que les voisins, mais c'était impossible de l'éteindre. La maison fut complètement détruite. Il fallait donc se rebâtir. Les années étaient difficiles et l'argent était rare. Mais la charité et l'esprit d'entraide étaient grands à Guy. Notre parenté, nos voisins et amis nous ont aidé beaucoup en donnant de leur temps et même du matériel. En peu de temps, on avait une petite maison convenable où nous installer de nouveau.

La vie n'était pas comme aujourd'hui; on pouvait vivre avec beaucoup moins d'argent. On vivait avec la chasse, les produits de la ferme, le lait, le beurre, les oeufs et on faisait toujours un grand jardin. On avait de bons légumes frais à manger et je faisais des conserves pour l'hiver. J'allais aussi cueillir des fruits sauvages, fraises, framboises, saskatoons et en faisais des confitures. Je faisais aussi beaucoup de couture pour refaire du linge usagé qui nous était donné et qui devenait de bon petits habits ou robes pour les enfants. Robert était courageux et n'avait pas peur de l'ouvrage. Il a lui-même défriché à la bache plusieurs acres sur sa terre. Comme moyen de transport on avait un gros wagon et des chevaux et parfois les chemins n'étaient pas praticables même en wagon.



R.1 Doris. R.2 André, Yvonne, Emile. R.3 René, Robert, Germaine, Carméline & Richard Borgeois.

Quand c'était absolument nécessaire, les hommes se déplaçaient à cheval ou à pied.

Au printemps 1943, Robert décida d'aller travailler à St-Albert avec ses frères afin de gagner un surplus d'argent pour faire défricher d'autre terrain. Nous sommes donc déménagés à St-Albert pour quelques temps. Il s'acheta un gros camion et faisait le transport des animaux à Edmonton. L'année suivante on revint sur notre "homestead" et Robert continua à cultiver et à défricher. Il fit aussi l'élevage des animaux et des cochons. Avec son camion, il faisait beaucoup de transport de grain ou d'animaux pour d'autres fermiers dans les environs, quand il en avait le temps. Autant que possible aussi, il était prêt à prendre part aux corvées qui se faisaient dans la paroisse. C'est ainsi qu'il avait travaillé au défrichement des chemins et du cimetière et à la construction de l'église et du couvent-pensionnat, surtout en faisant du transport de matériel. Les gros camions étaient peu nombreux dans la paroisse à ce temps-là. Comme la famille augmentait, Robert aidé de M. Andrew Luberd, construisit une petite ralonge au sud de la maison, ce qui nous donna une chambre et un petit salon de plus. Un peu plus tard, il bâtit une grosse écurie et un poulailler.

Avec le temps, l'économie s'améliorait. Robert avait pu acheter une automobile et il avait insisté pour que j'apprenne à la conduire. "Ce serait utile plus tard", disait-il. Il avait bien raison!

Nos enfants grandissaient. Nous faisons tout notre possible pour leur donner une bonne éducation. Ils avaient fréquenté l'école de Whiteland d'abord, puis l'école centralisée de Guy. Pour l'école secondaire, Germaine était pen-



4 générations: Mme Aurèle Lambert, Diane, Germaine Biron et Carméline Bourgeois.

sionnaire chez les Soeurs de Ste-Croix à Grande Prairie. Richard et René allèrent au Collège de Falher pour quelques temps et Yvonne a fait sa douzième année à l'école régionale de Donnelly. Nos garçons étaient très intéressés à cultiver. Ils ont d'abord travaillé avec leur père, tout en se procurant du terrain et des machines agricoles pour eux-mêmes. Germaine se maria en 1960 et Richard en 1964; Germaine s'établit à St-Albert et Richard à Guy. Nous envisagions l'avenir avec confiance.

Mais l'année 1966 m'apporta la plus grande douleur de ma vie. La santé de Robert laissait à désirer. Après un séjour de deux semaines à l'hôpital de McLennan, il revint à la maison et on le décida à se faire soigner à Edmonton. René et moi l'y conduisirent le jour de Pâques. Dès le lendemain, il y décédait à la grande peine de toute la famille qui entourait son lit. Son service eut lieu le 15 avril en l'église de Guy. Il repose dans le cimetière de cette paroisse.

Après cette dure épreuve, je suis restée encore quelques années sur la ferme avec les enfants qui étaient encore à la maison. Les garçons s'occupaient des terres. Les enfants à tour de rôle se mariaient et s'installaient chacun chez-soi. J'ai vendu une terre à André. Il l'a cultivée pendant quelques années, tout en travaillant à l'extérieur. Mais il préférerait faire du camionnage alors il vendit sa terre à Emile et s'acheta un gros camion. En 1972, Emile s'installa avec sa jeune épouse sur la ferme paternelle qu'il projetait d'acheter et en assumait la responsabi-

lité. Doris fréquentait l'école de Falher et y voyageait matin et soir en autobus scolaire. Alors en 1973, je suis déménagée à Falher afin que ce soit plus facile pour elle. Doris demeure et travaille maintenant à Grande Prairie. Quant à moi, j'aime beaucoup Falher mais je reste toujours attachée à la paroisse de Guy, car c'est là que j'ai passé la plus grande partie de ma vie, quarante-deux ans, et où j'ai eu le bonheur d'élever toute ma famille.

Robert Bourgeois: n. 27-02-1910 m. 08-02-1939 d. 11-04-1966

Carméline Lambert: n. 16-04-1911

ENFANTS:

1- Germaine: n. 25-01-1940 m. 23-01-1960

Denis Biron: n. 22-08-1939

a) Deanne: n. 03-03-1963

b) Robert: n. 30-08-1967

Ils demeurent à Kamloops, C.B.

2- Richard: n. 11-09-1941 m. 13-06-1964

Shari Ferris: n. 31-12-1943 (voir Bourgeois, Richard)

3- René: n. 23-05-1943 m. 02-12-1967

Yvette Rémillard: n. 23-11-1946 (voir Bourgeois, René)

4- André: n. 11-05-1945 m. 20-03-1969

Thérèse Gendron: n. 20-04-1951

a) Ky-Lee: n. 02-01-1971

b) Robert: n. 30-08-1967

Ils demeurent à Donnelly, AB.

5- Yvonne: n. 06-05-1947 1m.: 24-02-1968

Raymond Courchesne: n. 01-03-1944 d. 05-02-1973

a) Lynne: n. 23-11-1969

b) Lise: n. 13-10-1971

2m.: 02-04-1982; Gérard Ruel: n. 19-04-1950

a) Charlene: n. 23-09-1982

b) Jason: n. 06-02-1985

Ils demeurent à Peace River, AB.

6- Emile: n. 19-09-1948 m. 19-08-1972

Denise Demeule: n. 25-09-1952 (voir Bourgeois, Emile)

7- Doris: n. 29-09-1953, elle demeure à Grande Prairie.

* * *

Robert and his brother Jules, having heard about the beautiful Peace River area, left St. Paul in 1927 to settle on a homestead south of Falher in a district known as Ballater.

In 1929, their parents, Joseph and Dorilla and the other children, took a homestead near Forest View to be near the Whiteland School which was located near the neighboring land. Their homestead was eventually purchased in 1935 by Robert when his parents moved to Donnelly.

Robert married Carmeline Lambert in 1939. She is the daughter of their neighbors Aurèle and Elmiere (Brulotte). The newlyweds settled in the large rustic house that had been built for the Bourgeois family. Two weeks after the wedding, the young couple suffered an ordeal by fire which totally destroyed their house. Though money was scarce, they nevertheless had to rebuild and did so with the help of neighbors who generously donated both time and building materials.

Robert cleared the land on his own using an axe, the only tool available to him. For travelling, a horse and wagon served the purpose. At times the roads were impassable with the wagon, so in an emergency they went on foot or on horseback.

He raised some livestock and with his truck hauled grain and animals for the neighbors. In as much as he could, Robert also took part in the clearing of roads and of cemetery land. He was also on hand to help build the church and the convent.

As the family grew in number, larger living quarters were needed, so Robert, with the assistance of Mr. Lubarda, added on to their existing house.

Fortunately, the sons were interested in farming and at first worked in partnership with their father, all the while obtaining their own land and machinery.

The year 1966 brought great sorrow to the Bourgeois family. Robert was taken ill and brought to an Edmonton hospital where he passed away the day after Easter. His funeral services were held in Guy. He rests in peace in the Guy cemetery.

Carmeline remained on the farm for a few years following Robert's passing. The sons who remained at home took care of the farming duties. In 1972 their son Emile, and his wife, took over the family farm and in 1973 Carmeline moved into Falher.

BRENNAN, EDWIN

by Françoise Dechief

Mr. Brennan came to Ballater from the British Isles as a veteran of the Boer War and WWI. He operated the Post Office in Ballater from September 6, 1933 to December, 1938 when he resigned. On his way to Forest View with the mail, Mr. Aurele Lambert would deliver to Mr. Brennan the Ballater and the Whitemud mail. It was up to Mr. Brennan to sort it out and get it ready for the Whitemud postman when he came to pick it up. His land was NE 9-76-21 and NW 10-76-21.



Edwin Brennan with Alice Minarovich.

He was a good gardener and a good cook; he served many meals to passers by. He died at the ripe age of 92.

* * *

M. Brennan vint à Ballater des îles Britanniques comme vétéran de la guerre de Boers et de la première guerre mondiale. Il fut maître de poste de Ballater du 6 septembre 1933 à décembre 1938 alors qu'il résignait. En route pour Forest View avec le courrier, M. Aurèle Lambert remettait à M. Brennan le courrier de Ballater et de Whitemud. M. Brennan devait le trier et le préparer pour le postillon de Whitemud qui venait le chercher. Il possédait deux quarts de section.

Il était bon jardinier et excellent cuisinier; il servit à manger à plusieurs passants. Il est décédé à l'âge de 92 ans.

BRIAND, CHARLES E. & TRUDEAU, FLORIDA

par Charles

Charles E. Briand, fils de Eugène et Marilda Lévesque, né le 27 août 1917 à St-Fabien, Comté



R.1 Florida & Charles Briand, 35ième anniversaire de mariage. R.2 Angèle, Thérèse, Alphonse, Raymond, Roger, Louis et Yvette.

Rimouski, P.Q. Je suis arrivé en Alberta à la fin de juin 1941 et j'ai fait la "run" de battage à Falher.

J'achète un quart de section SW 5-77-21, six milles au sud de Falher. Le 6 avril 1942, j'épouse Florida Trudeau, fille de François et Maria Alain, née le 22 juin 1924.

Nous avons élevé 7 enfants et ils sont allés à l'école Langlois pendant plusieurs années.

Charles Briand: n. 27-08-1917 m. 06-04-1942

Florida Trudeau: n. 22-06-1924

ENFANTS:

1- *Louis: n. 19-02-1943 m. 22-06-1968*

Joyce Karol: n. 17-02-1949

a) Richard: n. 25-09-1969

b) Alain: n. 13-10-1971

c) Monique: n. 04-11-1974

Ils demeurent à Whitecourt, AB.

2- *Roger: n. 14-10-1944, il demeure à Edmonton.*

3- *Raymond: n. 11-02-1946 m. 29-06-1971*

Henriette Monette: n. 24-08-1950

a) Joanne: n. 23-07-1971

b) Liza: n. 06-04-1973

c) Mona: n. 16-09-1978

d) Raeanne: n. 10-03-1982

Ils demeurent à Worsley.

4- *Thérèse: n. 19-08-1947 m. 19-08-1967*

Albert Turcotte: n. 12-07-1940

a) Michelle: n. 10-07-1968

b) Charles: n. 21-09-1970

Ils demeurent sur la ferme à McLennan et Albert est directeur de l'école de Donnelly et Thérèse travaille à Treasury Branch à Falher.

5- *Angèle: n. 22-12-1949 m. 21-06-1969*

Jean-Claude Turcotte: n. 05-03-1946

a) Robin: n. 19-08-1973

b) Raynald: n. 28-01-1975

Ils demeurent à Peace River.

6- *Alphonse: n. 26-08-1951 m. 05-04-1975*

Paulette Desaulniers: n. 06-09-1955

a) Denis: n. 28-05-1974

b) Soleille: n. 09-06-1976

Ils demeurent sur la ferme paternelle et elle est secrétaire-trésorière de l'Ecole Routhier de Falher.

7- *Yvette: n. 20-02-1957 m. 31-12-1983*

Gordon Fleming: n. 05-03-1955

Ils demeurent à Sebelt, C.B.

* * *

Charles E. Briand, son of Eugène and Marilda (Levesque), was born at St. Fabien, Rimouski County in the province of Québec. He arrived in Alberta at the end of June 1941 and worked on harvesting crews in the Falher area. Charles soon bought a quarter section of land located six miles south of Falher.

On April 6, 1942 he married Florida Trudeau, the daughter of François and Maria (Alain). Together, Charles and Florida raised seven children who attended Langlois School in Guy for many years.

BROCHU, ALPHONSE

tel que Jean Gosselin se rappelle

M. Brochu arriva à Guy le 24 mai 1941. Il fit le voyage avec Ernest Gosselin et sa famille.

Il venait de la ville de Québec. Lorsqu'il a entendu dire qu'Ernest Gosselin s'en venait dans l'Ouest pour venir s'installer sur une ferme, il fit des arrangements et embarqua lui aussi. Je crois que l'Abbé St-Pierre l'avait convaincu lui aussi de venir s'installer par ici pour coloniser l'Ouest.

Après son arrivée à Guy il prit un "homestead" le NW 31-75-20-W5. Il se mit à l'ouvrage, comme tous les autres, à défricher la terre et à se bâtir une maison. Son garçon Téléphore arrive au mois de juillet 1941 et quelques temps après un autre garçon, Alphonse, arrive avec un M. Nault. Ils étaient venus aider leur père qui était malade. M. Brochu avait aussi été travailler dans le chantier à Faust pour M. Olivier Thibault probablement durant l'hiver 41-42. Je crois qu'il est retourné dans l'est l'année 43-44; sa santé n'était pas assez bonne et son terrain a été vendu à M. Irénée Soucy.

* * *

Alphonse, aware of the propaganda to settle

the West, decided to join the Ernest Gosselin family, and ventured to Guy. He filed the NW 31-75-20-W5th. Shortly after his sons Télespore and Alphonse came to help their father.

As he was already advanced in age his health did not permit him to continue the hard work. They returned to Québec after 2 or 3 years here. His land was then taken by Mr. Irénée Soucy.

BRULOTTE, CECIL & MABILLARD, MARGUERITE

by Marguerite Brulotte

Cecil was born in Guy, 5th child of a family of eight, son of Hermenegilde Brulotte and Marie Turney. He spent his young years on a farm in Guy where his parents lived, and attended the Whiteland school. At seventeen years he left home to work in the oil fields. In April 1958 he married in Edmonton, Marguerite Mabillard, daughter of François Mabillard and Aurore Audet of Girouxville. The same year, in December, he and his bride returned to live in the hamlet of Guy where their first daughter was born. The second child's birth is an event to be remembered! On a rainy night when the roads were so muddy that only a tractor could get through the baby decided it was time for him to be part of this world. A brother-in-law, Frank Luberd, had to take the young mother by tractor to the midwife's home; young Allen was born five minutes after their arrival delivered by his grandmother Brulotte. Happy event for all in spite of the mud!



R.1 Marlene. R.2 Marguerite, Christine Allen. R.3 Cecil Brulotte.

The young family lived in the hamlet of Guy for some time then moved in a house trailer on a brother's farmstead, still in the Guy area.

To be closer to his work with Western Geophysical, Cecil and his family moved to Calgary in 1963. This is where they still reside today and Cecil is still involved with the Oil Industry.

Cecil Brulotte; n.21-02-1934 m.07-04-1958
Marguerite Mabillard; n.04-08-1939

CHILDREN:

1. Christine; n.24-12-1958 m.01-09-1984
Dean Faithfull
2. Allen; n.07-08-1960 m.06-10-1979
Tammy Fisher
3. Marlene; n.03-03-1965 m. Stephen Kish
28-02-1987
a) Jason n. 24-06-1987

* * *

Cecil, qui est né à Guy, demeura sur la ferme de ses parents, jusqu'à l'âge de dix-sept ans. Après avoir fait toutes ses études à l'école de Whiteland, il s'engagea pour l'industrie d'huile.

C'est en avril 1958 qu'il épousa Marguerite Mabillard de Girouxville. En décembre il revint demeurer à Guy. Il y demeura jusqu'en 1963, alors qu'il partit pour Calgary pour être plus près de son travail pour "Western Geophysical", industrie d'huile.

BRULOTTE, DELPHIS & DROUIN, MADELEINE

par Madeleine

Moi, Madeleine Drouin, je suis née à Ste-Marguerite. P.Q., le 12 octobre 1923.

J'allais à l'école du rang St-Michel, paroisse St-Narcisse Neubois Lotbinière, un petit village qui se trouve à vingt-cinq milles de Ste-Marguerite.

J'ai fréquenté cette école pendant six ans, mais à la fin ça ne comptait pour pas plus de quatre ans, car il fallait travailler sur la ferme et nous manquions beaucoup de classes. Il fallait faire le foin, râcler la récolte au râteau de bois, traire les vaches, faire boire les veaux et soigner les porcs. Le printemps, nous devions corder le bois que mes frères avaient coupé pendant l'hiver.

À l'âge de quatorze ans mon père dit à Yvette et moi: "Mes filles, il faut que vous alliez travailler en dehors, car l'argent est bien rare".

À Lévis, Québec, j'avais une tante et une cousine qui nous ont trouvé de l'ouvrage. J'ai commencé à travailler dans un hôtel, ensuite



R.1 Delphis & Madeleine Drouin Brulotte. R.2 Lucille, Juliette, Ethel, Liliane. R.3 Emile, Marcel, Gaston, Bruce.

pour un notaire qui avait une famille de quatorze enfants. J'ai travaillé dans les maisons privées et toujours, pour 4,00 \$ par mois.

Je n'ai pas encore oublié qu'avec mon premier mois de 4,00 \$ j'avais eu une permanente pour 1,50 \$ et une belle robe pour 0,50 \$. J'avais aussi envoyé 2,00 \$ à mes parents.

Une bonne fois je prends l'autobus pour aller visiter mes parents, car je m'ennuyais beaucoup. C'était la première fois que je partais de la maison. C'est à cette occasion là que mes parents m'ont annoncé que nous déménagions en Alberta. Moi, toute surprise je ne voulais pas. J'étais déjà habituée à la ville et j'avais un ami.

Mon père me dit que j'étais trop jeune pour rester seule en ville. "Il faut que tu viennes avec nous".

C'est au mois de septembre 1941, que nous sommes arrivés à Forest View, Alberta, nom du bureau de poste par laquelle la région était connue.

Durant ce premier hiver en Alberta j'ai travaillé pour Mme Lionel Chalfoux, institutrice à Falher.

En juin, les classes finies, je suis retournée chez nous pour aider mes parents à défricher la terre. A l'automne je suis encore retournée travailler à gages.

En novembre 1942, j'avais déjà rencontré mon futur mari, Delphis Brulotte. J'avais réussi à mettre assez d'argent de côté pour acheter mon trousseau. Le mariage fut béni par l'abbé Paul Gagnon le 7 juillet 1943, à Guy. Ce fut un mariage double: ma soeur Yvette avec Henri Brulotte, un cousin de mon mari. Le monde disait que c'était la plus grosse noce qui avait eu lieu à Guy. Nous nous sommes mariés à dix heures du matin. Le dîner fut chez les parents de mon mari, le souper chez les parents d'Henri et la danse chez mes parents.

Notre maison n'était pas encore divisée et cela donnait assez de place pour danser. Quand les derniers sont partis il était sept heures du matin.

Mon chez-nous SW 16-75-20 W5th, tout près de celui de mes parents, me plaisait beaucoup. Pour les visiter je n'avais qu'à traverser le chemin. De là nous avons défriché notre terrain et nous avons élevé notre belle famille de cinq filles et quatre garçons.

Joseph Delphis Brulotte: n.10-05-1918 m. 07-07-1943

Marie Madeleine Drouin: n. 09-10-1923

ENFANTS:

1- Marie Suzanne (Ethel): n. 23-05-1944 m. 22-08-1962

Raymond Fournier: n. 11-03-1934

a) Marie Madeleine Florence: n. 31-05-1963

b) Marie Joséphine Thérèse: n. 07-04-1965

c) Marie Andrée Lina: n. 25-03-1969

Ethel prend soin de la maison et Raymond est mécanicien pour Angus. Ils demeurent à Peace River.

2- Marie Aline (Juliette): n. 11-05-1945 m. 07-07-1966

Gérard Bouchard: n. 02-09-1939

a) Marie Madeleine Michelle: n. 22-04-1967

b) Marie Lynne Doris: n. 22-03-1969

c) Marie Brigitte Sylvianne: n. 30-04-1971

d) Marie Linda Lucille: n. 11-08-1974

Juliette est infirmière et travaille à l'hôpital de McLennan. Gérard est fermier. Ils demeurent à Donnelly.

3- Joseph René (Emile): n. 21-05-1946 m. 10-10-1970

Pauline Jean: n. 13-03-1950

a) Joseph Vincent Claude: n. 17-02-1973

b) Marie Angèle Christine: n. 10-08-1975

c) Joseph Clément Wesley: 21-12-1976

Pauline prend soin de la maison et Emile travaille pour Firestone comme superviseur de la région. Ils demeurent à St-Albert.

4- Joseph Raymond (Gaston): n. 02-10-1950 1m. 26-06-1971

Doreen L'Heureux: n. 19-04-1951

a) Joseph Raymond Marc: n. 08-02-1974

b) Joseph Charles Neil: n. 15-08-1975

2m. 10-07-1982: Wendy Hampel: n. 29-04-1958

Wendy travaille pour A.G.T. et Gaston est directeur du département de viande Safeway. Ils demeurent à Spruce Grove.

5- Joseph André (Marcel): n. 24-08-1953 m. 11-10-1975

Susan Turner: n. 28-07-1956

a) Marie Jean Nancy: n. 01-01-1977

b) Joseph Roy Michael: n. 03-12-1982

Susan prend soin de la maison et Marcel est contremaître à Canfor Plywood Mill. Ils demeurent à Grande Prairie.

6- Marie Léa (Angèle): n. 16-06-1956 d. bébé

7- Marie Pauline (Lillianne): n. 22-04-1957 m. 26-08-1978

Harry Smith: n. 11-05-1956

a) Joseph Arthur Jason: n. 08-03-1982

Lilliane travaille pour Gore Mutual Insurance comme opératrice de téléphone et Harry travaille pour Westland Metal Products, comme opérateur. Ils demeurent à Edmonton.

8- Marie Monique (Lucille): n. 21-04-1958 m. 19-05-1979

Larry Wright: n. 23-12-1956

a) Joseph Geoffrey Roland: n. 20-09-1983

Lucille travaille pour Gore Mutual Insurance comme "commercial property typist" et Larry travaille à Edmonton Center, Oxford Development et est supérieur des opérations.

9- Joseph Réal (Bruce): n. 20-03-1961

Bruce a commencé à travailler pour Esso de McLennan à l'âge de quatorze ans, après la classe et en fin de semaine. Depuis la fin de ses études il travaille à plein temps.

Pour terminer mon histoire, en 1973 nous sommes déménagés à McLennan, où j'ai travaillé à l'hôpital, à la cuisine, pendant dix ans. Aussi je fais partie du mouvement des Femmes Chrétiennes. Delphis travaillait pour le village et a pris sa retraite en 1982. Nous sommes membres du Club d'âge d'or et de bien d'autres activités à McLennan où nous demeurons toujours.

* * *

I, Madeleine Drouin, was born in the province of Québec and that is where I spent my childhood and attended school. When I reached the age of fourteen, my father told my sister Yvette and I that we had to go to work in order to help with family finances. A cousin of mine found me a job in a hotel. It was during this time that my father decided that we were moving to Alberta. Being used to city life, I wasn't happy with his decision and wanted to stay in Québec. My father said that I was too young to be on my own and that I must go with them.

In September 1941 we arrived at Forest View. During that first Alberta winter, I worked for Mrs. Chalifoux, a Falher school teacher. When

school ended in June, I went back home to help my parents clear their land. When Fall rolled around, I once again went out to work

By November 1942, I had already met my future husband, Delphis Brulotte. I succeeded in saving enough money for my trousseau and on July 7, 1943 we were married in the Guy church.

Our home, located near that of my parents, pleased me immensely. I only had to cross the road to visit my family. We proceeded to clear our land and to raise our family. As the years went by, our union produced five daughters and four sons.

To finish my story, we moved to McLennan in 1973 where I worked in the hospital kitchen. Delphis worked for the town; he retired in 1982. We are members of the McLennan Golden Age Club and are involved in many of McLennan's activities.

BRULOTTE, ERNEST & JANELLE, MARGUERITE

from the Brulotte History Book

Fifth child of Frank and Amanda was born in St. Antoine, Saskatchewan, Canada. He was married on October 26, 1938 to Marguerite Janelle (Margo) in McLennan, Alberta. She was born on July 20, 1919 in Malta, Montana. U.S.A., daughter of Antoine Janelle and Madeleine Rochez. Ernest and Margo lived on a homestead two and one-half miles south east of Guy. He built a portable sawmill going from site to site sawing lumber for farmers and railroad ties for the government. He bought a Fordson tractor, with the power he ran the saw mill.

In 1946 Ernest and family moved to Slave Lake, Alberta, Canada, there he set up a lumber camp for Imperial Lumber Co., for a duration of five years. Having sold his farm at Guy, he filed for a homestead for a half section of land southwest of High Prairie, Alberta. It took several years of hard work to clear his land for farming, working during the winter months in lumber camps. Marguerite not only cooked for the crew, but also worked in a flower shop. In 1956, having built a house in High Prairie, the family moved there, where they still live.

To this couple were born seven children:

Ernest Brulotte; n.03-10-1906 m.26-10-1938

Marguerite Janelle; n.20-07-1919

THEY HAVE SEVEN CHILDREN: Louise M., Raymond J., Annette F., Yvonne M., Lawrence E., Leonard R. and June.

* * *

Ernest le cinquième enfant de Frank et

Amanda Brulotte est né à St. Antoine, Saskatchewan. Il a épousé Marguerite Janelle, fille de Antoine Janelle et Madeleine Rochez. Ernest & Marguerite ont vécu sur un "homestead" à deux milles et demi de Guy.

Il a construit un moulin à scie portatif qu'il transportait de ferme en ferme pour accommoder les gens.

En 1946 ils déménagèrent à Slave Lake et de là à High Prairie, AB., où ils demeurent encore.

BRULOTTE, FRANK & NOEL, AMANDA

by Madeleine and Delphis Brulotte

He was born on June 28, 1882 in Ham Nord Québec, Canada. He married Amanda Noël August 27, 1900 at Chartierville, P.Q. Amanda was born June 30, 1882 to Louis and Eugenie Gagné In the pioneering spirit Frank and Amanda left Sherbrooke, Quebec and made the long move to St. Antoine, Saskatchewan, Canada. Here he took up a homestead. Later in the 1920's they moved further on to settle in the South Kootenay Valley at Flagstone, B.C. Again he was involved in logging and in sawmills for a number of years. He did some river log drives, even though he couldn't swim he took part in log rolling contests.



Clarina, Joséphine, Mary Ann, Amanda, Frank, Walter, Ernest, Henry & Delphis Brulotte.

Later Frank was to move to Newgate, B.C. where he started farming and once again owned and operated a sawmill. Some winters he "locked ties" for a few extra dollars. He was a perfect woodsman.

In 1932, the beginning of the Depression, times were getting harder for Frank and his family. He decided that he and his family would make a big move to the land of the mighty Peace River country, where his brother William had gone in the early 1920's. It was the month of February when he and his oldest son Ernest, who

was twenty-six years old, loaded up a boxcar of machinery, furniture and six work horses and headed north. They unloaded at a small place called Kathleen, Alberta. Ernest filed for a homestead – Frank and Ernest stayed with Ferdinand Brulotte and wife Georgina Paradis (Ferdinand's second wife.) They planted their first crop and built a large log house. The rest of the



The Brulotte's crossing on ferry at Smith in 1932.

family joined them in May 1932. This included Maryann, her husband, Pete Riggins, Walter, Josephine, Delphis, Clarina, Henry and their Uncle Mitch and Aunt Marie Brulotte with their two children, and a family friend, Ernie Odine.

The caravan left Newgate with about sixty horses, four covered wagons, and started their journey to the Peace River Country. The trip took them seven weeks of hard travelling, making about twenty-five miles a day, making camp at night. Traveling seven days a week they covered the 1,125 miles to Kathleen arriving there on July 26, 1932. Walter had filed for a homestead on which they built a house. Several horses were traded for cows, pigs, and chickens. Two years later their house and contents burned to the ground, no one was at home at the time, they soon moved to Guy, Alberta.



Alfred & Clarina Pellant, Doreen, Wayne Pellant.

Frank and Amanda moved into Guy near Walter's place, where they lived and farmed until Frank died Nov. 9, 1959. Amanda died four years later May 27, 1963.

Frank Brulotte; n.28-06-1882 m.27-08-1900 d.09-11-1959 Amanda Noël; n.30-06-1882 d.27-05-1963

CHILDREN:

1. Napoleon; n.03-07-1901 d.03-07-1901
2. Conidore; n.04-08-1902 d.04-08-1902
3. Tancrede; n.11-12-1904 d.1926
4. Louis; n.11-09-1905 d.11-09-1905
5. Ernest; n.10-03-1906 m.Marguerite Janelle
6. Walter; n.09-01-1910 m.Dora Pellant
7. Mary Ann; n.29-10-1913 m.Pete Ringgen
8. Henry; n.07-02-1915 m.May Stephenson
9. Josephine; n.18-12-1916 m.John Janelle
10. Delphis; n.10-05-1918 m.Madeleine Drouin
11. Clarina; n.28-05-1920 m.Alfred Pellant

* * *

Frank Brulotte et Amanda Noël sont nés au Québec. Ils s'épousèrent à Chartierville, P.Q. En 1900 ils s'en vinrent dans l'ouest et cultivèrent une terre à St. Antoine, Saskatchewan. Ils déménagèrent dans la région de Kootenay, C.B. Il y avait plusieurs chantiers de bois où Frank trouva de l'emploi.

En 1932, ils arrivèrent à Kathleen, AB., sur une ferme où ils vécurent pendant cinq ans avant de s'en aller cultiver une autre terre à Guy pour bon nombre d'années.

BRULOTTE, HENRY & DROUIN, YVETTE

by Henry Brulotte

Henry Brulotte is the son of Willie Brulotte and Rose Anna Boulet. After attending the convent in Falher for grade one, I moved to the community of Guy, AB., on a homestead with my family. For myself it was a lot of fun running around in the thick bush surrounding the house. A part of our house was converted to a classroom, so I attended school there for two years. From there I finished my education in Whiteland School located on SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -30-75-20-W5 which was Mr. Johnny Charest's homestead. The Country School was limited to grade eight, so that was the end of my school days.

Since I was only fifteen years old, I was too young to go out and work, so I stayed with Mom and Dad and helped around the farm. As my older brothers were out working and younger brother Romeo was still in school, my Dad needed a lot of help around the place. There were cows to be milked, pigs to feed and also



Henri, Rose Anne, Jeannine et Yvette.

field work to be done with horses. There was never a dull moment on the farm. As for recreation, I attended a dance once a month, if the roads were dry, since my only transportation was a bike which I had bought with the proceeds from the cash sale of squirrel furs. In the fall of 1939, I started my first job on George Maure's farm in Falher where I worked all fall. After harvest, I went to work for Mr. Chailler in his logging camp, north of McLennan close to a little railroad station called Springburn. From the spring of 1940, till September 19, 1941 I worked in Grande Prairie for the Halwa family. I then joined the Canadian Army and served in Canada. In February 1942 I was discharged from the Army and came back home, finding my Dad in ill health trying to do all the work on the farm by himself. So I helped Dad and worked part-time for Ernest Brulotte who operated a sawmill. In the summer



Roméo & Henri Brulotte, Aldéo Major, Larry Charest, René Lambert.

of 1942, I took a homestead, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -20-75-20-W5, south east of Guy, AB., with 20 acres broken and cultivated. I built a little house on the place and dug a dugout for water.

On July 7, 1943 I married Yvette Drouin, daughter of Joseph Drouin and Eveline Lacasse. We lived on the farm during the summer and in the winter worked at the sawmill. In the spring of 1944, I bought a tractor and a breaking plow and started custom plowing for the neighbors. My wife Yvette took a homestead located SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -22-75-20-W5. Half a section of land to clear for cultivation, custom plowing and working for Ernest Brulotte in the winter, made a full time job. After Roseanne was born, it kept Yvette very busy looking after our baby girl plus the work around the house, with no electricity or running water. Life was pretty rough, but there was no other way.

In 1949, the crops were very good and the prices were good so I decided to trade my old tractor and an old truck for new ones. We then decided to place our two young daughters at Léo and Médora Lagacé's and went on a very well-deserved holiday. We left the first part of December and drove to Victoria, B.C. It was a long way, the roads were very narrow and mostly gravel. We came back in February, 1950.

In the fall of 1950, the crops were again plentiful. After harvest, the four of us left for the West Coast again, leaving the first week of November and coming back the first week of May 1951. The fall of 1951, Roseanne started school in McLennan, since I was working for Lucien Tardif. We lived in McLennan till 1957. By this time I had two gravel trucks so between gravel and lumber hauling, it kept me very busy. I would travel to the farm to put the crop in and to take the crops off. In the summer of 1958 I bought the house that we were living in at McLennan and moved it on the farm. In the same year, I built my machine shed. In 1962, I built a new house on the farm land and we now had electricity and running water.

In 1963, I bought more land, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 17-75-20-W5, and W $\frac{1}{2}$ -10-75-20-W5. On the last half there were only 60 acres open, so there was a lot of work to open the rest of the land.

In the spring of 1968 Yvette and I divorced. I then remarried on August 9, 1969 to Violet Rose of High Prairie, AB. I farmed till 1971. I sold the farm and had to get a special permit for the three years to be able to sell all the grain I had stored on the farm. In 1972 I moved to High Prairie and started doing carpentry work, and by 1974, I received my registered papers in carpentry. I started working on my own, building houses and



Truck load of wood.

commercial buildings, and did this until 1981. We have retired to the Okanagan Valley (Winfield, B.C.)

Henry Brulotte; n.15-07-1921 l.m. 07-07-1943
Yvette Drouin; n

CHILDREN:

1. Roseanne; n.09-08-1945 m.14-11-1964
Melvin Turner
 - a) Monica: n.16-04-1965
 - b) Cecil: n.21-02-1969
2. Jeannine; n.02-08-1948 m.11-08-1967
Andy Godbout. They have two children, Neil, Karen
2m.: Violet, Rose: n.09-08-1969

* * *

Henry, fils de Willie Brulotte et Rose Anna Boulet, reçu son éducation à Falher, et White-land. Il travailla avec son père et pour d'autres fermiers et aussi dans les chantiers.

Après son retour de l'armée en 1942 il devint fermier jusqu'en 1971. Il travailla comme ouvrier à High Prairie et se retira, en 1981, à Winfield, B.C.

BRULOTTE, HERMENEGILDE & TURNEY, MARIE

as told by Marie

Herménégilde (usually called Mitch), son of Joseph Brulotte and Henrietta Côté, was born in Ham Nord, Quebec, on October 16, 1897. His family came West when he was still a small lad, in the early part of the 20th century, and settled on a farm in Saskatchewan. However, farming conditions were rather poor in Saskatchewan; so after a few years, the family moved on to Flagstone, B.C.

Mitch married Marie Turney on October 5, 1921 in Fernie, B.C. Marie was the daughter of James Turney and Edith York. She was born



Mr. & Mrs. Hermenegilde (Mitch) Brulotte.

January 18, 1902 in Warroad, Minnesota. They moved to the United States in the late 20's and lived in the Yakima Valley for six years, working for a relative, Ovide Brulotte. They moved back to Canada and resided at Flagstone, B.C. where Thelma was born. From there, they came by caravan with some other families, Frank Brulotte's for one, to the Peace River Region with their two daughters, Shirley and Thelma, aged at ten and four. The journey began in May 1932. On June 19, they stopped at High River, Alberta, where Marie gave birth to a set of twin boys, Mervin and Melvin. They were soon on their way again, arriving at Kathleen, Alberta on July 26, 1932. After a brief stay there, Mitch and Marie each filed on a homestead on the 17-75-20-W5 in Guy, Alberta and moved there. They settled temporarily in Raymond Cloutier's house while they were building on their homestead. But before their house could be finished, on a Sunday while they were having supper at a neighbor's, Jos Bourgeois, someone there noticed that Raymond's house was on fire. The men ran immediately but could do nothing. Everything was lost. The family stayed with the Aurele Lambert fam-

ily, their cousins, for about two weeks, while Mitch hurried to finish the house, helped by relatives and neighbors, who also gave them whatever they could afford: clothes, dishes, pieces of furniture, etc. Gilberte Lambert also wrote to the Red Cross for help and the family received a good supply of clothes and blankets. Soon they could settle in their own house. Four other children were born there: Cecil, Beatrice, Alphonse and Lucien. All their children attended school at Whiteland, and later at Guy, when the country schools were centralized.

Mitch and Marie were hard workers. With the help of the children, they cleaned their land and cultivated it. Marie worked on the land; driving all the farm machines and enjoying that kind of work. They always had a big garden.

In the late thirties, Mitch's father, Joseph, came to live with them. He was welcomed by all the members of the family and spent the last years of his life with them. He loved his grandchildren and was loved by them. After suffering a stroke, he was left paralyzed and couldn't talk. The family took good care of him. He died on March 1, 1943 and was buried in the Guy Cemetery.

On the morning of June 23, 1947, Mitch died suddenly of a heart attack, at the age of fifty. He was laid to rest in the Guy Cemetery. The numerous assistance of parishioners at his funeral showed the respect and esteem in which he was held in the community.



5 generations: Michael Thomson, Leona Thomson. R.2 Grandma Thibault, Shirley Martel and Yvonne Sniezek Thibault.

After Mitch died, Marie continued to live on the farm and to cultivate it with the help of the two boys, Melvin and Mervin, now fifteen years old. Some years later, when most of the children had settled on their own, Marie sold the farm and moved to the hamlet of Guy with her youngest son Lucien. They lived for a while in Gabriel's Noel's little house, later moved to her own newly-built house near her daughter Shirley's family. On December 23, 1966, Marie remarried to Georges Labbé in Donnelly. Georges died on September 30, 1973. Marie lived alone for a time, then made her home with her daughter, Shirley, then living in Valleyview. While in Valleyview, Marie, now in her 70's, had the great joy of being able to go visiting her mother, age 96, in Vancouver.

When Alphonse and Shirley retired and moved to Donnelly, Marie went along with them. In 1980, when the Senior Citizens' Residences opened in Donnelly, she took an apartment there, where she is still residing. Now, at the age of eighty-five, she is the matron of five generations. She loves visiting or being visited by her children and grandchildren. She enjoys playing cards, going to the Club des Pionniers' Drop-in Centre for suppers and get-togethers, and attending the community's bingos at which she is fairly lucky.

Hermenégilde Brulotte; n.16-10-1897
m.05-10-1921 d.23-06-1947

Marie Turney; n.18-01-1902

CHILDREN:

1. Shirley; n.01-09-1922 m.05-10-1939
Alphonse Martel; n.06-10-1914.
(See Martel, Alphonse)
2. Thelma; n.03-12-1928 m.
1.m. Lucien Caux
2.m. Archie Harder: m.23-12-1977 (See Lucien Caux)
3. Melvin; n.19-06-1932 m.16-11-1955
Lilian Minarovich; n.17-09-1933.
They have three children. Rudolph, Ronald and Mark.
4. Mervin; n.19-06-1932 m.26-04-1966
Cécile Lantot; n.03-04-1966
(See Brulotte, Mervin)
5. Cecil; n.21-02-1934 m.07-04-1958
Marguerite Mabillard; n.04-08-1939.
(See Brulotte, Cecil)
6. Beatrice; n.27-11-1938
1.m. Frank Luberra
2.m. Kenneth Upstone
7. Alphonse; n.31-07-1940 m.26-04-1964
Arlene Dewald.
8. Lucien; n.15-02-1945 m.08-06-1968
Yvonne Grenier.

They have three children. Corrie Ann, Kenneth, and Kevin. Lucien is employed by Weyerhaeuser Canada as an electrical supervisor and lives in Merritt, B.C.

* * *

Hermenégilde, comme beaucoup d'autres, vint du Québec dès son jeune âge. La famille vint s'installer en Saskatchewan au début des années mil neuf cent. Mais, la ferme ne payant pas assez, ils ont dû déménager encore, cette fois à Flagstone, C.B. C'est là que Mitch rencontra et épousa Marie Turney, le 5 octobre 1921, à Fernie, C.B.

Quelques années plus tard le couple alla travailler pour Ovide Brulotte dans la vallée de Yakima, Washington. Après six ans, ils revinrent à Flagstone, C.B. Au mois de mai 1932, ils entreprirent un long et fatigant voyage vers la région de Rivière la Paix. Ils partirent en caravane avec son frère François (Frank) et leurs familles. Plusieurs chevaux et wagons chargés de ménage, provisions et machineries formaient la caravane.

Rendu à High River, Alta, Marie donna naissance à deux garçons jumeaux: Melvin et Mervin. Tout alla bien et quelques jours après, tous repartirent, et le 26 juillet 1932, ils arrivèrent à Kathleen. Ils ont demeuré là quelques temps, pendant que Mitch et Marie cherchèrent du terrain. Ils ont acquis chacun un quart de terre sur le 17-75-20 W5 à Guy. En attendant de se bâtir une maison, ils ont habité chez Raymond Cloutier. Leur propre maison n'était pas complétée, lorsqu'un feu détruisit la maison de Raymond et tout le contenu. La famille demeura chez leur cousin, Aurèle Lambert, en attendant que leur maison soit finie.

Vers la fin des années trente, le père de Mitch, Joseph, vint demeurer avec son fils et passa ses dernières années près de ses enfants et petits enfants. Il mourut le 1er mars 1943 et repose dans le cimetière de Guy.

Mitch le suivit le 23 juin 1947, lorsqu'il mourut subitement, à la suite d'une attaque de coeur, à l'âge de 50 ans.

En 1966, Marie se remaria à Georges L'Abbé de Donnelly. En septembre 1973 elle redevint veuve.

Elle demeure maintenant à Donnelly près de sa fille, Shirley, dans la résidence des pionniers, et jouie d'une assez bonne santé.

BRULOTTE, LOUIS & CURTISS, NORAH

par Gilberte Lemay

Louis Brulotte est né le 1 avril 1897 à Crooks-

ton, Minnesota, le onzième enfants de Ferdinand Brulotte et d'Adélaïde Blais.

Il n'avait que 4 ans quand ses parents déménagèrent à Moxee, Washington.

A l'âge de 15 ans Louis déménagea encore avec ses parents pour venir dans l'Ouest Canadien, plus précisément dans le district de Falher, AB.

C'est en 1912 qu'ils arrivèrent à Grouard; le printemps suivant ils se rendirent à Falher, où ses frères plus âgés, Edouard, Ovide, Frédéric et Emile étaient déjà rendus depuis l'année précédente. Louis travailla avec sa famille sur les terres.

Au mois de juillet 1913 ils eurent une dure épreuve quand son frère Emile se noya en traversant à cheval la Hart River.

Durant la guerre 1914-18 il dut faire du service militaire.

Quand il revint à Falher, après la guerre, il continua de travailler avec ses frères. C'est ainsi qu'il a acquis une demi-section, W¹/₂-11-76-21-W5, de terre de son frère Ovide.

En 1927 il épousa Norah Curtiss à Falher. Ils s'installèrent sur leur terre et cultivèrent plusieurs années. Norah avait des beaux jardins, surtout des fraises et des framboises. Leur terrain faisait partie de la Paroisse de Guy.

En 1932 ils furent éprouvés par le décès de leur premier et seul enfant à l'hôpital de McLennan peu de temps après sa naissance. Il fut inhumé à Guy, non loin de l'église, car il n'y avait pas encore de cimetière.

Mais au cours des années, la santé de Louis s'affaiblissait et il avait bien mal aux jambes; paraît-il que son stage dans l'armée en était la cause.

Louis est décédé le 22 mai 1942 à l'hôpital de McLennan.

Son épouse Norah, se trouvant seule, vendit ses terres et alla demeurer à Falher pour quelques temps. En 1948 elle épousa Robert "Bob" Violet de Falher; un homme assez âgé qui était à sa retraite. Ils sont allés demeurer à Kelowna, C.B.

* * *

Louis was born April 1, 1897 at Crookston, Minnesota. At the age of 15 years, in 1912, he arrived in Falher with his parents, the Ferdinand Brulotte family. In 1913 one of his brothers, Emile, drowned while crossing the Hart River, on horse-back. It was hard losing a son for a newly arrived family in a very young community.

Louis was called to join the armed forces,

during the 1914 to 1918 war. When he came back, he took possession of the W¹/₂-11-76-21-W5th. After marrying Norah Curtiss in 1927, they resided on this land. His wife was a very good gardener.

Unfortunately, only one child was born, who died shortly after his birth and is buried by the church in Guy.

Louis died in 1942 after a lengthy illness. His wife then remarried Robert Violet of Falher. And they retired in Kelowna, B.C.

BRULOTTE, MERVIN & LANCTOT, CECILE

by Cecile Lanctot Brulotte

Mervin (twin with Melvin) is the son of Hermenegilde (Mitch) Brulotte and Marie Turney. The two boy's birth is unusual as they were born in High River, Alberta on the family's trek by covered wagon from Flagstone, B.C. to the Guy area.

Mervin grew up on the farm in Guy attending the Whiteland school and becoming involved in the surrounding activities. He liked music and played the violin, mouth organ and the banjo. He and his brother, Melvin, entertained at many house parties, wedding dances and at local Christmas concerts. At an hour's notice the boys were on their way and the party was on. Friends



R.1 Dale & Léanne. R.2 Cécile, Joyce Arsenault, bébé Lisa Brulotte et Lynne. R.3 Mervin & Wayne.

and neighbor's appreciated their musical talent which they shared so generously.

At the age of fifteen Mervin lost his father and life changed quite drastically for the youngster. He and his brother, Melvin, being the eldest boys in the family, now shouldered some of the family responsibilities. A staunch friendship developed with Benoit Aubin at this time as the Aubins were living in the Whiteland School teacherage (Cecile being teacher there that year) and many pleasant evenings were spent on the Charest pond playing hockey. Benoit loved hunting as much as Mervin and Melvin, so that was another strong bond between them. So it could be said that Benoit became a father image at this crucial time. The friendship has long lasted.

On April 26, 1966 Mervin married Cecile Lanctot, daughter of Lucien Lanctot and Lea Marceau and the young couple made their home in Guy from 1966 to March 1974. The children were all baptized in Guy. Wayne and Lynne started their schooling in Guy also. Mervin worked for the Zesko family, the Allarco Farms and during the winter for the seismic crews. For two winters the couple went cooking in bush camps.

Later Mervin moved his family to Girouxville as he now became custodian at the school, a position he held for four years. Then Mervin became employed by Alberta Transportation and Cecile at the Credit Union, positions they both hold at this time.

Mervin still enjoys hunting; he has a comfortable cabin in the Whitemud Creek area on his trapline.

Mervin: n.19-06-1932 m.26-04-1966

Cecile Lanctot: n.03-04-1946

CHILDREN:

1. Wayne: n.29-09-1966

Joyce Arseneault: n.30-07-1968

a) Lisa

2. Lynne: n.05-09-1968

3. Leanne: n.16-08-1972

4. Dale: n. 16-08-1972

* * *

Mervin, le jumeau de Melvin, est le fils de Herménégilde (Mitch) Brulotte et Marie Turney. La naissance de ces jumeaux est exceptionnelle puisqu'elle avait lieu alors que la famille était en route de Flagstone, B.C., pour s'en venir à Guy. Ils naissaient à High River, Alberta.

Mervin grandit sur la ferme à Guy. Il fit ses études à l'école de Whiteland et participa aux activités de la région.

Son père mourut alors que Mervin n'avait

que 15 ans. Mervin et Melvin, les fils aînés prirent les responsabilités d'aider leur famille.

Ils se lièrent d'une amitié sincère avec Benoit Aubin qui, avec sa famille, vivait dans la région de Whiteland où son épouse Cécile enseignait la classe. Que de soirées d'hiver se sont passées à jouer au hockey sur l'étang chez les Charest! Benoit créa un lien très rapproché et on pourrait dire qu'il était presque un père pour ces jeunes à ce moment critique. L'amitié dure toujours.

Le 26 avril, 1966, Melvin épousa Cécile Lanctôt, fille de Lucien et de Léa Marceau. Le couple vécut au village de Guy de 1966 à 1974. Tous les enfants furent baptisés à Guy. Wayne et Lynne commencèrent leurs études à Guy. Mervin gagna sa vie à travailler pour l'un et pour l'autre. En hiver, le couple faisait la cuisine dans les chantiers.

Par la suite, Mervin et sa famille s'en allèrent vivre à Girouxville où Mervin fut le concierge à l'école pendant quatre ans. Puis il trouva un emploi au Département des Transports de l'Alberta, et Cécile à la Caisse Populaire.

Mervin aime toujours faire la chasse; il possède un chalet dans la région de Whitemud Creek.

BRULOTTE, WILLIAM (WILLIE)

BOULET, ROSE ANNA

by their children.

Willie Brulotte was the son of Joseph and Henriette Côté and was born on January 1st, 1891 in Ham Nord, Québec. On January 7th, 1913 in St Antoine, Sask., he married Rose Anna Boulet, who was born on October 17, 1894 in St Zacharie, Québec. They lived in St Antoine, Saskatchewan for two years, then moved to Flagstone, B.C. There he worked with two brothers as a lumberjack. He had heard about the Great Peace River Country so in May 1921, he decided to move to Falher, Alberta where he farmed on one of Ovide Brulotte's farm. There, Henry, the sixth child was born, on July 15th, 1921. Willie always dreamed of owning his own farm, so in April of 1928 he took up a homestead south east of Guy N½-20-75-20. There he built a two storey house, all in 6 X 6 sawed timber from a local sawmill. He built the house with the help of a few neighbors, Wilfrid Levasseur and Louis Charest and his two oldest sons, Paul and Antoine. In the late part of May 1928, Willie moved from Ovide Brulotte's farm in Falher to his two storey house in Guy, accompanied by his wife and his family of eight children.

Once the move was complete there was a lot



Willie, Rose Anna et bébé Guy dans le jardin en 1931.

of work to be done since the house was not totally finished. A barn was a shelter for the horses and cows and a few pigs, built from logs cut on the farm by Willie, Paul and Antoine. Then they built an ice house to be filled with ice and covered with sawdust to be used for drinking water. Then came time to clear trees and brush to get some land ready to be seeded the following year for feed for the horses and cows. That same spring one more child was added to the family, Micheline, born on May 28, 1929. Mother needed the help of the three oldest daughters, for cooking and housework. Dad was also kept very busy providing food for the family. He spent a lot of time in the woods hunting for the meat supply. Mother was keeping the family busy working in the large garden, of which she was always proud.

When the neighbors would come and visit she was always proud to keep them for a meal



5 generations Brulotte: Great-great-grandmother Rose Anna Brulotte, 93 years, great-grandmother Medora Lagace Lechasseur, 69 years, Leona, 48 years, Dianne, 24 years and Jennifer born November 25, 1984.

made up of vegetables, homemade bread and butter and the moose steak that she used to love cooking.

By this time Dad and all the neighbors had got together to form a school board, but they ran into the problem of not having a schoolhouse ready, so Dad and Mother offered part of the house to be used for a school. The livingroom was closed in for a classroom. There, the family and the neighbors' children all went to school where Miss Bernadette Mathieu, taught. She lived with us for two years. After two years Dad and all the neighbors worked together and built a school house, called Whiteland School which was built on the southwest corner of Mr. Johnny Charest's farm one mile west of our house. Then the tenth child was added to the family. Guy, born on February 5th 1931, was baptized in our home by Bishop Guy, o.m.i. The priest who travelled from Donnelly came to say mass in our two storey house. Sometimes it was an outdoor celebration when the weather was suitable. Later the mass was said at Aurèle Lambert's place.

By this time a crew was well on its way to build the church which now stands in the Hamlet of Guy, AB.



R.1 Willie & Rose Anna Brulotte. R.2 Guy & Germaine. R.3 Alma, Médora, Rose Anna, Léa, Micheline. R.4 Paul, Henry, Roméo.

In 1932, this church got the finishing touch as Dad installed the cross on the top of the steeple with the help of his son, Antoine and the contractor Mr. Gagné. Then the grand opening of the church took place in the summer with a parade on a Sunday accompanied by Bishop Guy from Grouard and our parish priest Father Mallet. Mother could not attend the celebration because

she had gone to McLennan Hospital to give birth to the eleventh child, born June 15th, 1932.

Then came the hungry thirties. Dad did a lot of work for the neighbors as he was quite handy as a blacksmith and he had built a little shop to do repair work on farm machinery. In 1944 they sold their farm to Mr. Andrew Dlugosz and moved to the hamlet of Guy. There, he built a blacksmith shop plus a General Store and a house. Father looked after the blacksmith shop and hauled supplies from Peace River for the store. He did a lot of work in his shop for all the people in the community.

The majority of the families did their grocery shopping on Sunday after Mass.

Dad and Mother carried on in this business till March 1961. They sold the business to Mr Mrs Yvan Bouchard who had come from the province of Québec. Mom and Dad bought a mobile home and moved to St. Albert, AB., and stayed in Jean and granddaughter Leona Bouilly's yard for a couple of years. Then they moved the mobile home to B.C., living closer to his two brothers, Albert and Omer, whom he had not seen since they had worked together as lumber-jacks in their younger days. Then they moved for a couple of years to Cache Creek, B.C., where two of their sons, Antoine and Romeo and families were living.



Chez Willie Brulotte. R.1 René Lambert, Roméo, Henri, Léa Brulotte, Roméo Loiselle, Paul Brulotte. R.2 Aurèle Lambert, Willie, bébé Micheline, Mme Rose Brulotte, Rose Anna Brulotte, Gilberte Lambert, Médora Brulotte, Maurice, Raoul Lambert. R.3 Alma Brulotte, Carméline Lambert, Antoine Brulotte, Antoine Brulotte, Omer Lambert.

Since they were getting older, they decided to move back to Alberta. They moved their mobile home in Rhéal and Médora Lechasseur's yard, across the Smoky River ¼ mile from the Highway. There they stayed till 1970. Due to failing health, they moved to Our Lady of the Lake Nursing Home in McLennan. In 1973 they celebrated their Diamond Jubilee by attending Mass with most of their children in the Lady of the Lake Nursing Home followed by a reception

in Mr & Mrs. Rhéal Lechasseur's home. Their 50th anniversary had also been celebrated in 1963. Our dear father Willie passed away on December 5, 1977 and was buried in the Roman Catholic Cemetery in Guy, AB. Mother is still living at the Home. At the age of 92 she is doing fairly well and is in good health.

Willie Brulotte; n.01-01-1891 m.07-01-1913 d.05-12-1977

Rose-Anna Boulet; n.17-10-1894

CHILDREN:

1. Napoléon Paul; n.05-11-1913 m.29-05-1938
Mary Latka; they had nine children and live in Fernie, B.C.
2. Antoine; n.03-12-1914 m.17-08-1935
Janet Ross; they had one child and live in Chilliwack, B.C.
3. Alma; n.31-07-1916 m.15-02-1939
Laurent Hébert; they have five children and live in Edmonton.
4. Médora; n.11-01-1918 m.04-01-1938
Léo Lagace; (see Léo Lagacé story)
5. Rose Anna n.21-12-1919 m.04-03-1943
Edward Halwa; they have two children and live in Grande Prairie, Alberta
6. Henri; n.15-07-1921 m.07-07-1943
Yvette Drouin; (see Brulotte, Henri)
7. Roméo; n.13-02-1923 m.10-10-1949
Anne Harris; they have five children and live in Penticton, B.C.
8. Léa; n.22-04-1927 m.04-07-1951
Paul Pariseau; they have seven children and live in Montréal.
9. Micheline; n.28-05-1929 m.17-11-1970
Jean Paul Bouchard; and live in St. Albert
10. Guy; n.05-02-1931 m.16-05-1952
Edna Furgeson; they have three children and live in Lady Smith, B.C.
11. Germaine; n.15-06-1932 m.30-10-1950
Anatole Turcotte; (See Anatole Turcotte story)

Napoleon:

(Known as Paul) After helping the family to settle in Guy, he returned to B.C. He made his home in Natal and later in Fernie where he worked as a contractor in the mines. He and his wife Mary, are retired and living in Fernie, B.C.

Antoine:

(Known as Twen) He remembers that one summer's wages of \$54.00, working for Frank Brulotte, gave him the opportunity to buy his first two horses and that at the age of fourteen he shot his first moose. He left home at a young age to return to Flagstone, B.C. where he became a machinist and mechanic.

Alma:

After attending school in Falher, worked at the Hotel in Donnelly then in McLennan in a restaurant and drug store. After her marriage, she moved to Edmonton and became a seamstress for elite clientele which still keeps her busy.

Medora:

See Lagacé Léo story.

Roseanna:

She worked in Falher after finishing school. Later while working in Grande Prairie, she met and married Edward Halwa. She died in an automobile accident on December 8, 1981.

Henri:

See Brulotte, Henry story

Romeo:

He left home to join the navy. After the war he married Anne Harris in Victoria, B.C. He operated his own sawmill for some time then he sold out and moved to Prince George, B.C., where he worked as a branch manager for Patrick Equipment. In 1973, he moved to Penticton where he opened an Interior Sharpening Centre which includes sharpening saws drills and blades. He is now retired.

Micheline:

She spent 20 years as a Sister of Providence. After leaving the religious order she continued her career as a dietician in the St Albert Hospital. In November 1970, she married Jean Paul Bouchard and they made their home in St. Albert. They enjoy square dancing for a pastime.

Germaine:

She remembers; "Being part of a large family I had to help around the house at an early age. That big garden Mom put in did lack water at times. We didn't unroll the garden hose with a sprinkler then. The water was hauled from the dugout. Old Bill, our horse, was the one who usually gave us a pull. With a stoneboat and two barrels of water we would water the garden. It was also the opportunity for a water fight. Our drinking water was ice from the ice house. The ice would keep all summer as the ice was packed in sawdust. When needed the ice was cleaned, put in a barrel and chipped. Today our pre-schoolers look in the sky for the Big Dipper. Then the big dipper mostly talked about was the one hanging over the ice barrel in the corner of the kitchen.

Laundry day was also a long one. I remember getting home from school and the wash wasn't done. The washing machine was geared with a handle to work the plunger. I remember taking turns pushing the handle to keep the washing

machine working. The clothes were hung outside in the winter time to freeze and then brought in the house to dry.

Mother spent long hours sewing our clothes. I remember waking at night hearing the sewing machine. Sure enough one morning my moccasins were ready to wear. We didn't only eat moose meat we also wore the hide. We didn't have access to supermarkets in those days."

* * *

En mai 1921, Willie et sa famille arrivent à Falher, et cultivent une terre appartenant à Ovide Brulotte. En 1928, ils s'installent sur leur ferme au sud-est de Guy. Pour l'éducation des enfants, il faut une école, alors une partie de la maison a servi d'école pour les enfants de la région pour deux ans. Ensuite, l'école White-land fut bâtie.

En 1932, l'église de Guy était finalement construite et Willie, son fils Antoine et M. Gagné, le contracteur installent la croix au sommet du clocher.

En 1944, ils vendent la terre et ouvrent un magasin et une boutique de forge à Guy. Ils vendent en 1961 et prennent leur retraite à St-Albert. Ensuite ils vivent en C.B. puis reviennent en Alberta.

En 1963, ils célèbrent leurs noces d'or et en 1973 leurs noces de diamant.

Rose Anna demeure encore au foyer à McLennan.

CAMPBELL, HAROLD & ANGELINE, BOISJOLI

by Angeline

Harold was born in Lacombe, Alberta, on April 28, 1901, where he received his first years of education. His father enrolled in the Canadian Army during World War I. The family at that point moved to Edmonton, where after finishing school Harold apprenticed in the painter's trade.

Upon the father's return from the army the family took up farming in the Vimy area. There Harold bought a quarter section of land, and later in 1925 met Angeline Boisjoli from Lamoureux, a teacher in the district who was to become his wife. They were later married at Lamoureux, Angeline's home. They decided to follow the current trend, to file on a homestead in the Peace River country.

On April 13, 1928 the choice was made on SW¹/₄-13-76-22-W5, currently owned by Gas-ton and Marie Mencke, The adjoining section was purchased from the Hudson's Bay Co. This later to be sold to Meyus Bros. One raw quarter sec-

tion providing sufficient "hard labor" for one farmer, for the time being! Here the four older children came into the family, namely: Margaret (Mrs. G. Ego) now in California, and Joan (Mrs. J. Hutton) living in Edmonton, who both took up business education. Vivian (Mrs. R. Prestash) a retired teacher now residing in Manitoba, and finally René, retired from employment with Canadian Kenworth, a Canada wide trucking firm. He and wife Leda are in British Columbia. Two children were later added to the family, namely: Helen (Mrs. D. Self) a teacher and office worker, residing in Ontario, born when we lived in Donnelly. Richard, a teacher, born in Edmonton where he and wife Rena make their home.

Peaceful and happy times were the homestead days, but with no school in the area, education became a grave concern with our growing family. Prayers were heard!

In February 1935, the Sisters of the Holy Cross from Donnelly Consolidated school came along with a pressing invitation to join their staff. A bilingual teacher was urgently needed to fill a mid-term vacancy in grades three and four class from March 1, 1935 to June 30, 1935. After some deliberation and planning the move was made. The outcome was ten fruitful years toward a sound bilingual and musical education, plus religious formation with the devoted Holy Cross Sister.

Years slipped by rapidly, World War II, 1939, created employment opportunity for many bread winners, including Harold, who pursued his trade with an American Co. in Peace River. This company transferred to Edmonton with their workmen.

One more timely decision, a move to Edmonton, July 1, 1945, to keep the family united, as well as to provide opportunity for continued education following high school.

One year flowed into the next, the family that had given joyful reward left one by one.

Retirement home remained in Edmonton, enjoying an ever growing family tree, with winters spent in milder climates and summers devoted to exploring our beautiful Canada from the Pacific to the Atlantic and from the forty-ninth parallel to the North West Territories.

A close relationship of almost sixty years came to a very sad and sudden end on March 31, 1984 with Harold's fatal pedestrian accident in Penticton, B.C. "Lord, Thy will be done!"

* * *

Harold est né à Lacombe où il reçut ses premières années de scolarité. Son père s'enrôla

dans l'armée canadienne durant la première guerre mondiale. La famille déménagea donc à Edmonton où après ses études Harold devint apprenti-peintre.

Quand le père revint de l'armée la famille déménagea à Vimy. Là Harold acheta un quart de section et peu après en 1925 rencontra Angéline Boisvert de Lamoureux, une institutrice qui devait devenir sa femme. Ils se sont mariés à Lamoureux. Ils décidèrent de prendre un "homestead" dans la région de Rivière La Paix. En avril 1928 le quart qui appartient maintenant à Gaston et Marie Mencke à 13 ½ milles au sud ouest de Falher fut acheté. La section adjacente fut acquise de la compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson et vendu plus tard à Meyus Bros. C'est ici que les quatre enfants aînés sont nés. Plus tard deux autres enfants se sont additionnés à la famille. Des temps paisibles et heureux furent les jours de la colonisation mais sans école dans la région, l'éducation devint une préoccupation importante avec notre famille en croissance. Des prières furent exaucées!

En février 1935 les Soeurs de Ste-Croix de l'école consolidée de Donnelly m'invitèrent à me joindre à leur personnel. Une institutrice bilingue était requise pour remplir une position en 3 et 4^{ième} année du premier mars 1935 au 30 juin 1935. Après délibération la décision fut prise et le résultat fut dix années d'éducation bilingue, musicale et religieuse avec les dévouées Soeurs de Ste-Croix.

La deuxième guerre mondiale créa des emplois pour plusieurs gagne-pain, incluant Harold qui poursuivit son métier avec une compagnie américaine à Peace River. Cette compagnie déménagea à Edmonton avec leurs travailleurs.

Une autre décision à point: un déménagement à Edmonton le 1^{er} juillet 1945 pour garder la famille unie et procurer une éducation continue après la haute école. Peu à peu les enfants quittèrent le foyer.

Edmonton fut le site de la retraite, avec les hivers passés sous des cieux plus cléments et les été à explorer notre beau pays, le Canada.

CARON, FRED & CHALIFOUX, MELONIA

by Roderick Caron

Fred W. Caron was born in Greenleaf, Kansas, U.S.A., June 23, 1891, the youngest of the ten sons of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Caron (born Adelaïde Cyre). He received a grade eight education in Kansas, then followed his brother to Canada as a teenager. In the winter of 1910 he secured a job as teamster on a sleigh train hauling freight from Mirror Landing (Athabasca) to Grouard. He fol-

lowed the rivers and lakes, sleeping under spruce trees while resting the horses.

During World War 1, he returned to the States to join the Navy as a gunner to fight for his country. After WW1 Fred returned to Canada and finally settled on his brother Ferd's farm at Riviere Qui Barre. He rented this land for several years.

Melonia Ermine Chalifoux was born in Ste. Rose, PQ., in 1899 daughter of Theophile Chalifoux and Cleofire Ouimette. She was the 13th



R.1 Marie, Roderick, Rita, Fernie. R.2 Melonia et Fred.

child of a family of eighteen. Her parents migrated west in 1905, settled in Beaumont, south east of Edmonton. She attended Normal School in Calgary in 1918-19. She began her teaching career in the outskirts of Morinville at the Frontenac School. With an enrollment of 48 pupils in eight grades she earned \$72.00 a month, and paid \$25.00 monthly for room and board at the Morinville Rectory. The second year she obtained a job at the Granger School in Riviere Qui Barre where she met Fred Caron who was on the school board. They were married February 2, 1921.

The next few years were successful in raising three girls but not so successful in the business of farming. So in the year 1928 they decided to follow brother Eddie Caron who was in the Donnelly area. Fred and his family moved to a homestead (S 1/2 4-76-21-W5). They brought with them by train a steel-wheel tractor, a breaking plow, other basic equipment and personal belongings. Included was a precious piano which fell off the wagon crossing the creek on the way home. Many painful hours were taken to put the piano back into playing condition.

Fred was able to make a living from breaking land for neighbors and himself during the summer months. He even tried his luck at making

Certificate of Marriage

THIS CERTIFIES THAT

ALFRED CARON

and

MELONIA CHALIFOUX

were united in

Holy Matrimony

According to the Right of the Roman Catholic Church and in conformity with

the Laws of the Province of ALBERTA

In St. John the Baptist Church, at Morinville, Alta.
on the second (2) day of February 1921

The Rev. A. Gauthier officiating

Witnesses:

F. W. Caron

as appears from the Marriage Register of this Church

Issued by *Emile Gauthier* cf. p. 45

Theophile Chalifoux

Rector

Date February 21 1921



Certificat de mariage.

“moonshine” a home-made brew but was unsuccessful to the point that he got a free trip to Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Institute for a short spell.

Melonia was able to open the first Post Office and grocery store in their home in 1930 after borrowing \$400.00 from her father. The Caron residence for years was also a stop-over for the early settlers who came from Whitemud Creek area on their way to Falher, or to the hospital in McLennan, which was a two day trip. Fred made many trips with his Model A Ford truck with expectant mothers.

During the next few years the depression hit and they closed the Post Office and store but opened a schoolroom in part of their house that was not being used while the girls attended the convent for their education. Neighbors assisted in renovating the room into a classroom, organized a playground and built a two seater outdoor toilets for both girls and boys. This accommodation was used for two years. As Sebastian Jasmin and Fred Caron were instrumental in organizing this school it was given the title of Jason School. Soon a school district was to be organized which remained under the same name until a new school, Edgehill, was built one and a half miles to the south of the Caron residence. Melonia taught in numerous schools: Donnelly Heights, Guay School, South Ballater, North Ballater, Guy, Edgehill and Falher to complete a forty year teaching career.

They managed to remain on the farm and raise their four children.

After a lengthy retirement, having taken up residence in Falher, Fred passed away in an Edmonton hospital on July 10, 1961 at the age of seventy. Melonia still resides in Falher and at the age of eighty-seven years recently moved to the

Villa Beausejour enjoying retirement and pleasant surroundings including numerous friends.

To date she has ten grandchildren, nineteen great grandchildren and one great, great grand-child.

Fred Caron: n.23-06-1891 m.02-02-1921 d.10-07-1961

Melonia Chalifoux: n.1899

CHILDREN:

1. Marie Genevieve: n.08-12-1921 m.05-06-1942 d.07-09-1985

Cliff Hughes

a) Robert: n.29-05-1943

b) Betty: n.18-11-1947

2. Fernande Frances: n.16-12-1922 m.04-10-1941

Colin McKay

a) Carol Francis: n.02-06-1943

b) Donald Andrew: n.12-08-1946

c) Linda June: n.09-06-1952

d) Colin Bruce: n.13-10-1957

3. Rita Gilberte: n.09-07-1925

1m Jack Stanley McCrea

2m Max Gibson

4. Roderick (Bud) Raymond: n.06-03-1932 m.18-11-1953

Alma (Mousie) Laitres (See the Rodrick Caron story)

* * *

Fred est né à Greenleaf, Kansas, E.U. le plus jeune enfant de Archie Caron et Adélaïde Cyre. Après avoir complété huit années d'études, il suivit son frère au Canada. En 1910, il charroya les marchandises de Mirror Landing, Smith jusqu'à Grouard suivant les lacs et rivières.

Il retourna aux Etats-Unis pendant la première guerre mondiale et s'enrôla dans la marine. Après la guerre, il est revenu louer la ferme de son frère à Rivière Qui Barre, AB.

Melonia est née à Ste-Rose, P.Q., fille de Théophile Chalifoux et Cléofire Ouimette. Sa famille arriva à Beaumont, AB, en 1905. Melonia alla à l'école normale à Calgary en 1918-1919. Elle enseigna à l'école Frontenac près de Morinville et l'année suivante à l'école Granger à Rivière Qui Barre où elle rencontra Fred qui faisait partie du conseil d'école. Ils se sont mariés le 2 février 1921.

En 1928, comme les revenus de la ferme étaient maigres, ils décidèrent de rejoindre Eddie, le frère de Fred, à Donnelly. Ils s'installèrent sur le "homestead" S1/2-4-76-21-W5.

Fred cassait du terrain pour lui-même et ses



Fred & Melonia Caron & daughter Rita.

voisins et Mélonia s'occupait d'un magasin et d'un bureau de poste dans leur maison.

A cause de la crise économique ils durent fermer le magasin et le bureau de poste. Mélonia commença une classe dans leur maison. Ceci s'appellait l'école Jason car elle avait été organisé par Sébastien Jasmin et Fred Caron. Lorsque l'école Edgehill fut construite, l'école Jason dut fermer ses portes. Pendant une carrière de quarante années, Mélonia enseigna aux écoles Donnelly Heights, Guay, South Ballater, North Ballater, Guy, Falher et Edgehill.

Leur famille élevée, ils se sont retirés à Falher. Fred est mort le 10 juillet 1961 à l'âge de soixante-dix ans. Mélonia demeure à la Villa Beauséjour. A l'âge de quatre-vingt sept ans elle jouit encore de ses amis et de l'atmosphère plaisante où elle demeure.

CARON, RODERICK & LAITRES, ALMA

by Roderick (Bud) Caron

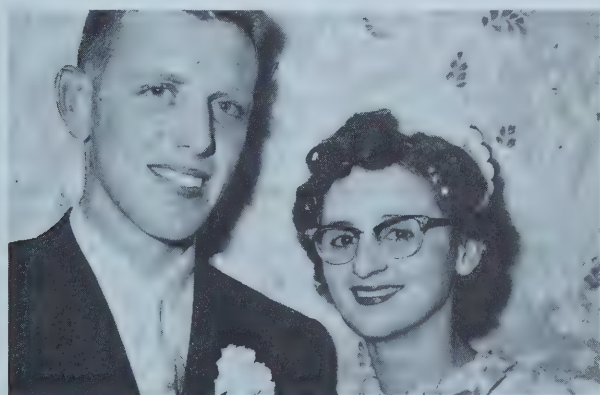
I was born on March 6, 1932 at the McLennan hospital, the fourth child of Fred and Melonia Caron, nee Chalifoux, of Guy. I attended school at Jason, Edgehill, Donnelly Heights, and Falher Consolidated where I made the final decision to not finish grade 12 and go farming with my father. The next several years I kept busy during the summer months farming and working at the local garage (Chalifoux Motors). The winters were reserved for lumber camps at Faust for McRae Lumber where I was timekeeper and first-aid man, which I enjoyed doing for ten winters, the last year being 1959-60.

At 18 years of age I became manager of the "Ballater trio" musical band that attempted to play solely at Edgehill Hall. The band members were Jimmy Gruber (accordion), Don Gagnon (guitar), Bud Caron (violin), and during the summer, added a fourth member Florence Cloutier

(guitar). The addition added spice to the trio and also the ten dollars we received for playing was easier to split equally.

In 1951 I bought my first $\frac{1}{4}$ section of farm land (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 10-76-21-W5) from Raymond Thi-beault who had purchased it through V.L.A.

I married Alma (Mousie) Laitres on November 18, 1953 in McLennan. Alma was born April 30, 1934 in Spiritwood, Sask. to Ernest and Germaine (nee Frechette) Laitres. Alma lived and went to school in Debden, Sask, Leoville, Sask, Malartic, P.Q., Jousard, AB and Nampa, AB. She worked at McLennan Drug Store for four years before getting married. The next four years we lived like Gypsies moving every six months or so from camp to farm and back to garage but in the spring of 1957 after apprenticing two years in automotive mechanics, I decided to take over my father's farm as farming was always "First Love". Farming and lumber camps went well together so that was the lifestyle until 1960. After that it was "young ones in school" so I took up driving a school bus for High Prairie School Division for the next five years. For several years to follow, Alma and I were preoccupied raising four children who attended school in Guy, Donnelly and Falher.



Bud & Alma Caron.



R.1 Juliette & Alma. R.2 Raymond, Norman, Roderick (Bud), Michael.

In 1961 just months prior to my father's death, I bought the rest of my father's land and dug my roots a little deeper. In the years that followed fortune was sought in many ventures including hogs and sheep raising. I enjoyed the experience of being Municipal Councillor for five years. I also was one of the original organizers of the Guy church Finance Committee of which I was chairman for nine years ending in 1980.

The Caron's home is always open to friends and neighbors as it was in the earlier days with the previous generation. It is still sometimes referred to as "Alma's Coffee Shop". We hope the third generation will carry-on. Community spirit and a keen interest in local events were always priorities in our family's life.



Norman and Raymond dancing in the tub at Mike's wedding, an old French tradition.

Alma and I maintain that we will remain on the farm where we live as long as our health allows us to do so.

Roderick: n.06-03-1932 m.18-11-1953

Alma Laitres: n.30-04-1934

CHILDREN:

1. Juliette: n.21-10-1954 m.23-02-1974

Raymond Gour, son of Lionel and Noella Babineau

a) Daniel: n.23-02-1975

b) Nicole: n.13-08-1977

c) Kevin: n.21-02-1982

They farm in Marie-Reine and Juliette has a Ladies Wear Store in Peace River.

2. Raymond: n.08-08-1956

Raymond farms with his dad and brother Mike.

3. Norman: n.07-02-1960 m.15-11-1986 in Nampa

Angela Gour, daughter of Richard and Lorraine Gour.

They live in Peace River. Norman is an automotive mechanic.

4. Michael: n.27-09-1962 m.28-06-1986

Denise Gour, daughter of Victor and Marcella Gour.

Michael and Denise live on the family farm. He bought one half section from his dad and they farm together.

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Je suis né à l'hôpital de McLennan, le 6 mars 1932, le quatrième enfant de Fred Caron et Mélonia Chalifoux. Je fis mes études à différentes écoles de la région. Je quittai l'école avant de finir mon secondaire, pour travailler à la ferme avec mon père. Pendant plusieurs années je travaillais au garage de Chalifoux Motors, aussi bien qu'à la ferme. En hiver, je travaillais au chantier de bois pour McRae Lumber où j'étais chronométré et où j'occupais le poste de premiers-secours; j'y suis retourné pendant dix hivers soit jusqu'en 1960.

En 1951, j'achetais mon premier quart de section de Raymond Thibault.

Le 18 novembre 1953, j'épousai Alma Laitres à McLennan, fille de Ernest Laitres et Germaine Fréchette. Elle avait travaillé 4 ans à la pharmacie à McLennan avant son mariage.

Pendant les quatre années suivantes nous avons vécu la vie nomade, du chantier à la ferme et au garage Chalifoux Motors à Falher, AB. En 1957, je pris la ferme de mon père en main, car la ferme était ma préférence.

Par la suite, nos jeunes enfants devaient se rendre à l'école Langlois, donc je fus chauffeur d'autobus scolaire pendant les cinq prochaines années.

En 1961, peu avant le décès de mon père, j'achetai ce qui lui restait de terrain. Je tentai l'élevage de moutons, et de pourceaux. Pendant cinq ans j'eus le plaisir de servir à titre de conseiller municipal. Je pris aussi part à d'autres activités paroissiales.

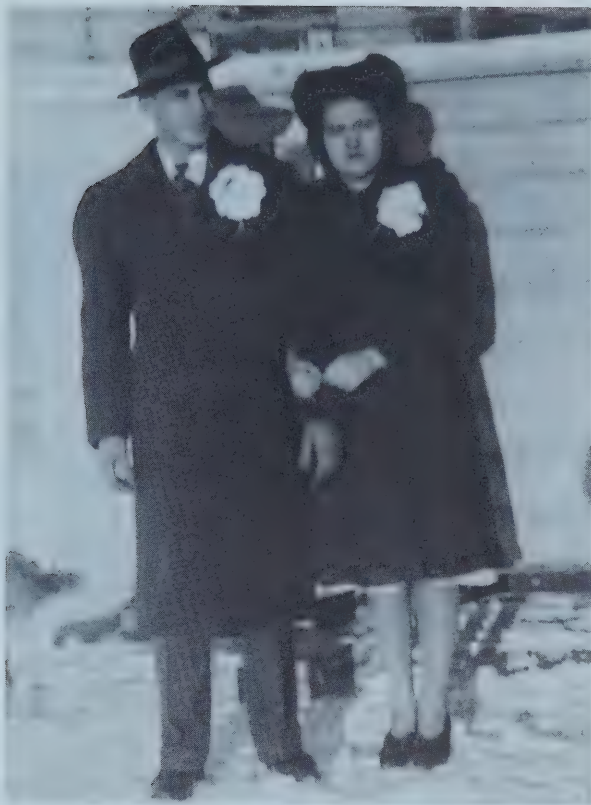
Alma et moi voulons vivre sur la ferme aussi longtemps que notre santé nous le permettra.

CAUX, LUCIEN & BRULOTTE, THELMA

compiled by Juliette Lussier

Lucien, son of Louis and Emerilda Caux (Langlois) was born on June 22, 1919 at St. Narcisse, Quebec. He was the third oldest of twelve children. His father was a farmer and construction worker.

In 1941 with his younger brother Rene and six members of the Drouin family, they left their home in Quebec and drove to the Peace River country. They arrived on September 15th in rain



Lucien & Thelma Caux.

and it kept raining for two months. Conditions were so bad that fall, skids had to be installed on the threshing machines. This was also the year of the rabbits. They were all over in great numbers.

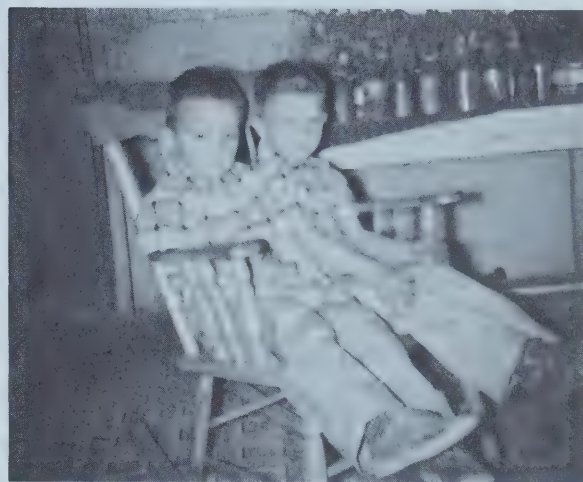
Lucien and Rene both took homesteads in the Guy area. Rene later sold to Albert Charest and moved to Golden B.C. where he still resides. Lucien kept farming and in the spring of 1942 took basic training for the Army in Grande Prairie. Shortly afterwards he met Thelma Brulotte, daughter of Mitch and Marie Brulotte, who lived on a homestead one and one half miles away. They were married on November 14th, 1945. They farmed for 27 years. In the winters, Lucien would work for different sawmills and one of these was for Laurent Brassard. He also worked four years on bridge construction and did a lot of carpentry work in the area.

In 1966 he sold his farm to Pierre Despins and they moved to Donnelly where they lived for seven years. In 1973 Lucien moved to Edmonton where he worked as a carpenter for Facto Homes for seven years. He then came back to Falher in 1980 where he resided at the Manoir St. Anne for two and one half years. He then left for Lloydminster, Alberta where he is presently retired.

Thelma, daughter of Hermenigile (Mitch) and

Marie Brulotte (Turney) was born on December 3rd, 1928 in Flagstone, B.C.

In 1932 her family moved to the Guy area on a homestead. Thelma took her schooling in the Whiteland district. For entertainment, Thelma along with her brothers and sisters, held house parties and attended school dances. In 1943 at one of these functions she met Lucien Caux. They were married and raised a family of eight children.



Laurent & Gilbert Caux.

Thelma re-married on December 24th, 1976 to Archie Harder. They are presently living in Lloydminster where they are employed.

Lucien Caux; n.22-06-1919 m.14-11-1945

Thelma Brulotte; n.03-12-1928 2.m.
24-12-1976 Archie Harder

CHILDREN:

1. Lucille; n.04-11-1946 m.04-05-1968
Douglas Falcon. They have four children.
2.m. Edward Ketemer. m.27-12-1985
2. Denis; n.19-12-1947 m.20-06-1970
Jacqueline Girard. They have two children.
3. Juliette; n.11-01-1949 m.20-08-1966
Marcel Lussier. They have five children.
4. Jeannette; n.13-03-1951 m.
Gerald Durand. They have four children.
5. Laurent; n.10-05-1954 m.28-09-1979
Mary McLaren. They have two children.
6. Gilbert; n.01-05-1955 m.1974
Sylvianne Martineau. They have two children.
2.m. Geraldine Cormier. m.12-10-1979
One child: Mélanie.
7. Angele; n.16-01-1959
8. Doris; n.16-09-1966 m.18-12-1982
Daryl Sidoryk. They have one child.

LUCILLE received her elementary education in Whiteland and Guy and part of her High School in Donnelly. She was accepted at N.A.I.T. in Edmonton where she took a business course. She worked for the Government of Alberta from 1966 to 1971. While living in Edmonton she met Douglas Harvey Falcon, from Battleford, Sask. who was an apprentice sheet metal mechanic. They were married on May 4, 1968. Their infant son Sean Douglas died in an automobile accident on July 22, 1972. After moving to Lloydminster, AB, Lucille worked in offices of several companies. They had four children: Carmen, Sean, Deirdre and Blaine. After taking three years of Certified General Accounting Courses she is presently employed with Robertson Baynton, Barristers and Solicitors, as an accountant. Lucille remarried on December 27, 1985 to Edward Jack Ketemer.

DENIS attended Guy school from 1952 to 1966. In 1966 he left Guy to take a sheet metal course at N.A.I.T. in Edmonton, AB. Afterwards he worked for Alaska Heating as a sheet metal mechanic. Denis married Jacqueline Girard, daughter of Eliphe Girard and Corinne Levesque. Denis and his family are now living in Millwoods, Edmonton, AB.

JULIETTE also received her education in Guy and part of her High School in Donnelly. While working at the Hudson Bay store in Peace River, AB, she met Marcel Lussier who was working in the N.A.R. office in Peace River. After their marriage, Juliette worked for the Treasury Branch in Peace River from 1968 to 1970 when they moved to the farm nine miles south of McLennan. They have been mixed farming since then.

JEANNETTE received her education in Guy as well as in Donnelly. Most fond memories of her school years were her involvement with the track and field and volleyball teams. During the summer of 1967 she met Gerald Durand while working at Donnelly Corner Restaurant which was managed by her mother. One year later they were married in Donnelly. That same winter they moved to Edmonton, AB. From April 1970 to September 1972 Jeannette was employed by the Dept. of Agriculture as clerk-typist. In the summer of 1975 Gerald and Jeannette started a business partnership under the company name of Durand Finishing Ltd. One highlight of their lives was a holiday taken in Tahiti in January 1977. During 1978-80 Jeannette completed her High School at Victoria Composite in Edmonton, AB. She was then employed by the Banque Nationale de Paris as bilingual executive secretary. Jeannette and Gerald are now living on three acres south of Sherwood Park. Jeannette is presently at

home with her family and still does book-keeping for their business. She is involved with the Tennis Club. Their great joy are their four children: Allan, Claudette, Jeremie and Marc.



R.1 Gilles, Juliette, Nicole. R.2 Rosanne, Richard, Marcel, Lynette Lussier.

LAURENT received his primary education in Guy, Junior High School in McLennan and High School in Edmonton and Donnelly. He joined the Canadian Forces on October 25, 1974 to become a pilot. He earned his pilot's "wings" on May 14, 1976. Following this Lieutenant Caux was posted to Petawawa, Ontario where he flew CH 135 Twin Huey helicopters. On September 28, 1979 he married Mary Christina McLaren, an employee of the National Defense Headquarters, Ottawa, whom he had met the previous year while on exercise in Borden, Ontario. Promoted to Captain in July 1978, Laurent was posted to 450 Transport Helicopter Squadron, Ottawa where he piloted CH 147 Chinook Helicopters.

From September 1981 until April 1985, he attended the University of Ottawa, where he achieved Magna Cum Laude standing while obtaining a Mechanical Engineering degree. He is still with the Department of National Defense and is an instructor pilot on Chinook helicopters in Ottawa. Mary and Laurent have two boys: Aidan and Marc.

GILBERT received his primary and secondary education in Guy and Donnelly respectively. In 1972 Gilbert moved to Edmonton, AB where he apprenticed in sheet metal and graduated from N.A.I.T. in June 1978. In 1974 he married Sylvianne Martineau of Falher, AB. They had two children: Christine and Michel.

While living in Fort McMurray, AB, Gilbert remarried on October 12, 1979 to Geraldine

Cormier, a Registered Nurse from Richibouctou, NB. They moved to Halifax, NS in 1984 where Gilbert attended the Nova Scotia School of Denturism and Geraldine attended Dalhousie University.

In the spring of 1985 they purchased the Family Dairy Bar in Richibouctou, NB, a seasonally operated ice cream parlor which Geraldine is currently operating. Gilbert opened his own Denture Clinic on September 29, 1986 in Richibouctou, NB.

ANGELE spent her younger years in the Peace River country and subsequently moved to Lloydminster, AB in 1973 where she received her last year of Junior High and her first year of High School. In 1976 she moved to Calgary where her godparents, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Brulotte lived. She graduated from Bowness High School in Calgary, AB in 1977. After working as a receptionist for three years she became employed as bookkeeper for a microfilm company where she remains employed as controller. Angèle is currently taking her 4th level of CGA program. She keeps active in sports and in travels.

DORIS received part of her education in Donnelly and the remainder in Lloydminster. In December 1982 she married Daryl Sidoryk. They have one child, Jennifer. They are presently living in Lloydminster where Daryl is employed on his father's dairy farm. They also manage the apartment where they live.

* * *

Le 15 septembre 1941, Lucien, son frère René, et six membres de la famille Drouin arrivent dans la région Rivière-la-Paix, et s'installent à Guy.

Plus tard, René vend son terrain et demeure à Golden, C.B.

Après son mariage en 1945, Lucien et Thelma cultivent pendant vingt-sept ans.

En 1966, le terrain est vendu et la famille Caux demeure à Donnelly pour les sept prochaines années.

De 1973 à 1980, Lucien travaille pour Facto Homes à Edmonton. Il revient à Falher en 1980 et deux ans et demi plus tard il se retire à Lloydminster, AB.

Thelma, fille de Herménégilde (Mitch) et Marie Brulotte (Turney) recevait son éducation à l'école Whiteland.

Elle demeure maintenant à Lloydminster, AB.

CHAIBOS, JOHN & CIESLUK, ROSALIE

by Joseph Chaibos

John Chaibos, born in Poland, December 2, 1900 emigrated to Canada in April, 1928, leaving his wife and young son in Poland until he would return to them at a later time. Arriving in Saskatchewan a month later, he sought work and in a short time found employment on a farm at Wilkie, Sask. He worked there for two months and then moved to Kerrobert, Sask., where he worked on a farm till fall. In early December of 1928 John made his way to Edmonton where he found work north of the city, hauling straw and green feed to the city stock yards.

In early spring he hopped on a freight train and arrived in Peace River in search of a home-stand. He filed on a quarter section east of Peace River, in the Three Creeks area. He built a log cabin and cleared a patch of land. He worked when work was available and spent his leisure time hunting and clearing land.



John, baby Walter, Jos and Mrs. Chaibos.

Work was very scarce in the Peace River area, so in the spring of 1930, John came to Falher in search of work and was hired by Mr. Henry Vestraete clearing land. He worked the entire summer in the Falher area clearing land for Mr. Villeneuve, Mr. E. Cloutier as well as Mr. Vestraete. While working in the area, he established a close friendship with John Minarovich and Bill Sawchyn as well as other settlers.

In the early half of 1930 John explored the area south of Falher and became attached to the countryside as well as to the settlers. He located on the Little Smoky River banks. During the late fall he built a log cabin and opened some land.

Most of that winter was spent cutting brush for Mr. Villeneuve at \$1.25 per day so he could earn enough capital to develop his homestead.

John's dream in coming to Canada was to earn a sufficient amount of money and return to Poland where his wife Rose and son, Joseph, were waiting for him. Once back in Poland with his earned capital he could create a home for his family. However like many others before him and afterwards, his dream fell apart.



Mrs. Chaibos proud of her meat canning.

The early thirties, sometimes called the "dirty thirties", was a period of depressed grain prices and unemployment. One was fortunate to hold a job. Most of the work available consisted in clearing land for the established farmers or at the local sawmills where the wages earned would be collected by taking home some of the lumber or planks, as cash was not to be had.

In the two and one half years of working in Canada John fell in love with the vast virgin land, the abundance of wild life and mostly of the many different cultures of the settlers living and working together. This convinced him to make his home in Canada. With his small earnings he opened 20 acres of land on his homestead, built a better log house and barn. He bought horses and some small machinery. He applied for Canadian Citizenship and made arrangements to have his wife and son join him on his homestead in Canada.

On June 12th, 1936 John's family arrived in Falher; he met them at the railway station. The trip to the homestead was of great joy and

expectations. During the eighteen mile journey home, he would stop at many friend's home along the trail introducing his family and explaining to his wife what the life of a homesteader in Canada was like.

In April, 1937, a second son, Walter, was born. The family resided on the river bank and the two boys attended school. From 1942 to 1946 Jos attended the Falher Consolidated school. Walter started at Edgehill School and then High Prairie Public and in 1952 completed his grade nine there.

In 1952 after a short illness, Walter passed away in the McLennan Hospital. He was never forgotten. In the spring of 1957 the family relocated one and half mile west of Guy on a farm known as George Vowden's farm, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ -75-21-W5.

In the fall of 1962 John returned to Poland to visit his family and friends. When he returned in March 1963, he spoke of the many changes that had occurred in his native land. On one occasion when a group of John's friends gathered at his home, each one relating his hardships during the pioneering days, I recall Dad saying: "Yes, I almost cried, for my rubber boots were worn and full of holes, my socks full of ashes and mud and my feet burnt. As I tried to wash them in a slough, the mosquitoes almost drained the last drop of blood out of me. But when I saw some of my friends in Poland who had lost their feet during the war, I thanked God, for today I wear boots made of the world's finest leather."

On March 13, 1966 John was killed in a tragic car accident, west of Triangle, AB. He is greatly missed by his wife, Rose, presently a resident at the G.B. Wood Nursing Home in High Prairie, by his son, John, and wife Helen and three grandchildren.

But he left us memories we are proud to remember.

John Chaibos; n.02-12-1900 m. d.13-03-1966

Rosalie Ciesluk; n.21-04-1907

CHILDREN:

1. Joseph; n.24-02-1928

(See Chaibos, J. story)

2. Walter; n.19-04-1937 d.19-09-1952

* * *

John, né en Pologne, arrive au Canada en 1928. Il travaille en Saskatchewan, puis à Edmonton, AB.

En 1929 il prend un quart de terre à Three Creeks, AB. Puisque l'ouvrage est rare, il vient à Falher en 1930. Il décide de s'installer dans la région. En 1936, son épouse et son fils Joseph

arrivent de la Pologne. En 1957, ils déménagent sur une autre ferme à l'ouest de Guy. Le 13 mars 1966 John meurt dans un accident d'automobile. Rose demeure à G.B. Wood Nursing Home à High Prairie.

CHAIBOS, JOSEPH & NAYDA, HELEN

by Joseph (Joe) and Helen

I was born in Poland on February 24, 1928 to John and Rosalie Chaibos.

In May of 1936 my mother and I left Poland to join my dad in Canada.

It took us three weeks to travel from Gydnia (Dansyk) Poland, through the Kiel Canal, across the Baltic Sea, to Liverpool, England, and then to Canada. At Liverpool we boarded the ship "Duchess of Bedford", which took us to Montreal. In Montreal we boarded a train, which brought us to our final destination – Falher, Alberta – on June 12th.

When we arrived at Falher, it was a cloudy, drizzling morning. There we were met by a tall man wearing a leather jacket, worn-out cap and rubber boots. Yes, this man was my father, whom I had not seen before, except in photographs which he had sent from Canada. It was a very emotional meeting for the three of us that morning. After eight long years of waiting, our family was finally together.



Arlene, Susan, Jos, Helen and Terry Chaibos.

After having dinner, we loaded our luggage, hitched the team of horses to our wagon, and dad took us on a tour of Falher through its muddy streets before making the eighteen mile journey south of town to dad's homestead. The journey was bumpy but pleasant, as the weather had cleared and it was sunny and warm. As we tra-

velled, dad shared stories of his experiences in this new land, which fascinated me along with the endless miles of bush and wild game.

Along the way, dad stopped and introduced us to some people for whom he had worked: Mr. Villeneuve, E. Cloutier, as well as other friends – Mr. Ed Brennan, Fred Caron, and later the John Minarovich family, where we were welcomed with a very good supper.

Later that evening we travelled one mile west to dad's homestead, our new home. The log house and barn with its straw roof appeared strange. What I liked the most was the view to the south, where the vast green valley and the rushing sound of the Little Smoky lay below. It was a picture of natural beauty.

The days and months to follow were interesting but hard at times as we became accustomed to our new surroundings. We put up with the hardships as most other families did at that time.

It was difficult at times, too, as dad would often leave for periods of time to find work elsewhere and would usually return with some pay, the occasional cow or supplies, as he tried to become better established.

Although lonely at times, we sometimes were fortunate to have people stop by and visit; especially in the summer when people from the surrounding area often came down to the river banks to pick saskatoon berries. Not knowing much in the way of French or English, I was taught by Mrs. M. Caron. There I started learning my first English. Somehow I learned the bad words as well as the proper ones, and in a short time I was able to converse and read in English.

I recall many experiences, some pleasant and some not, such as riding horseback five and half miles to school, the cutter rides with the Minarovichs, the runaway horses and almost getting stuck in the muddy sloughs. One incident that stands out most in my mind is when I started school the first fall. Mom and Dad ordered me some woolen long-johns from the Eaton's catalogue. I found them unbearably itchy. I left home on horseback every morning wearing my wool-lies. After I had gone about a quarter of a mile from home, I took them off, no matter how cold it was, and hid them in the neighbor's brush pile. One day while returning from school, I noticed that the neighbor was burning the brush piles. I hurried my horse, but when I got there, I noticed that my long-johns had long been turned to ashes. In spite of the long travel to school and hardships, they are memories to be cherished.

With the opening of the Edgehill School in 1938, and improvements in roads, the quality of life was improving. We made more acquaintan-

ces and more frequent association with the rest of our community, at school picnics, Christmas concerts and local dances. The social life in our community was very active and wholesome. After finishing eighth grade, I attended Falher Consolidated School. There I stayed at The home of Mr. & Mrs. O. Chailer for three years. While there, I helped out with the chores on their farm after school and on week-ends. My last year in school I stayed at the home of Mr. L. Pronovost.

After completing high school in 1945, it became obvious that dad needed help on the farm. I decided to farm with him.



Jos Chaibos hauling water as a very young boy.

As farming did not always supply the needed fast dollar for my reckless spending, I worked out at lumber mills, road construction, hauled pulpwood and other jobs I could find through the winter months. For eight winters I worked out on drilling rigs as well.

In 1956 Dad and I bought the George Vowden farm, one and one half miles west of Guy and relocated there in 1957.

In 1960, while visiting in Edmonton, I met Helen Nayda and in a moment I realized I liked her better than myself. In 1962 we were married in Edmonton.

I, Helen, was born on September 22, 1934, at Gilwood near High Prairie, Alberta. I am the second of three daughters of Pearl and Peter Nayda. I attended the Shadow Creek School for a few years.

In 1945 my family moved to Ontario, where I attended the Northridge School, a country school situated half-way between Essex and Cottam. During the spring of 1946 we moved to Point Pelee, the most southern part of Ontario. There I attended the Mersea School, where I completed my grade five and started grade six. As we only lived one mile from the shore of Lake Erie, almost every summer evening, my sister and I walked to swim in the lake.

In late fall of 1946, we moved to Morinville, Alberta, where we bought a farm four and half miles north-east of town. I attended the Riopel School, four miles north of Morinville. There I completed grade six, seven and eight. For grade nine and high school, I attended the Thibeault School in the town of Morinville. I also worked after school at the Morinville Drug Store.

After completing a secretarial course at McTavish Business College in Edmonton, I then worked as a secretary for the law firm of Grant, Cavanaugh & Rolf, Coca-Cola Ltd. and Investors Syndicated of Canada. It was during that time that I met Joseph Chaibos. I eventually married him, and ended up moving to Guy.

From that time on, we journeyed through life as a team. We expanded our farming operation and shared the ups and downs that go with it.

The greatest reward in our lives are the three children who were born to us: Terrence, Susan and Arlene.

Terrence stepped into his father's shoes, and at the present time is farming with his dad. During the winter months he works as a seismic driller.

Susan works in Edmonton as a legal secretary.

Arlene, at present, is attending high school at G. P. Vanier School in Donnelly. We have wonderful and cherished memories of our first twenty-five years as a family in our community, and hope that we will have many more such years to share.

Joseph (Joe): n.24-02-1928 m.1962

Helen Nayda: n.22-09-1934

CHILDREN:

1. Terrence: n.05-12-1962

2. Susan: n.27-11-1964

3. Arlene: n.17-02-1971

* * *

Je suis né en Pologne en 1928, fils de John Chaibos et Rosalie Ceisluk.

En mai 1936 ma mère et moi partîmes de la Pologne par bateau et une fois au Canada par train de Montréal à Falher, AB., afin de rejoindre mon père déjà rendu au Canada depuis huit ans.

Après une première rencontre émotionnelle avec mon père nous quittions la gare de Falher pour nous rendre à son "homestead". Ce trajet de dix-huit milles, qui m'a paru très long, s'est fait en voiture tirée par les chevaux.

En chemin mon père était heureux d'arrêter chez ses amis afin de nous faire connaître.

Nous sommes finalement arrivés au "homestead. Nous avons trouvé une maison en bois

rond et une écurie avec un toit de chaume. Le paysage au sud rivière, vallée et colline était splendide.

La vie au début, quoique intéressante, fut difficile surtout quand mon père devait partir durant plusieurs semaines pour gagner de l'argent.

En 1937 j'ai commencé l'année scolaire à l'école Jason à cinq milles et demi de chez-moi. Mme. M. Caron fut mon premier professeur et c'est là où j'ai appris l'anglais.

Avec l'ouverture de la nouvelle école d'Edgehill en 1938 et l'amélioration des routes, la vie devenait plus facile.

Afin de compléter mes cours au secondaire à Falher j'ai dû demeurer chez M. O. Chailler et M. L. Pronovost. Une fois mes études terminées en 1945 je choisis de devenir cultivateur tout en aidant mon père. Cependant j'ai aussi travaillé à l'extérieur pour gagner de l'argent comptant.

En 1956 nous avons acheté la ferme de George Vowden. En 1960 j'ai rencontré Helen Nayda que j'ai épousée à Edmonton en 1962.

Helen est née en 1934 à Gilwood, près de High Prairie, AB., Elle alla à l'école Shadow Creek, AB., jusqu'en 1945 alors que sa famille déménagea en Ontario.

En 1946 la famille Vayda se déplaça à Morinville, AB., où Helen continua ses études. Ensuite elle compléta un cours commercial au "McTavish Business College", à Edmonton après lequel elle fut employée dans cette même ville.

C'est pendant ce temps qu'elle rencontra et maria Jos Chaibos. Leur grande joie c'est leurs trois enfants Terrence, Susan et Arleen.

CHAMPION, DAVID & ALLETSON, SUSAN

by Myrna and James Crone

David James Champion, born October 5, 1941, was raised in Saskatchewan, and after graduating from high school at Lashburn, Sask, joined the Canadian Airforce and spent five years in the airforce. He took his training in eastern Canada and was stationed in Europe. When he left the forces he decided to go farming and after checking it out at Ft. Vermilion, AB., he filed on a homestead, E ½ of 23 and SW ¼ of 24-74-21 W5. Later he acquired more land.

David took his welders ticket and then his heavy duty mechanics certificate. He loved flying and became a pilot and then a spray pilot, spraying for many farmers in the area.

He was a member of the Donnelly Volunteer Firemen, and active member of C.A.R.E., at present is President of the Smoky River Agriculture



Mr. & Mrs. David Champion.

Society and a great supporter of the tractor pull, being a provincial Director of the Association.

On July 28, 1984, David married Susan Elizabeth Alletson, a registered nurse from England who worked at the McLennan Hospital. They built a new house just south of the Donnelly Airport, where they make their home.

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Une fois son diplôme obtenu à Lashburn, Sask. David s'enrôla dans les Forces Armées et passa cinq ans dans l'aviation. Il fit son entraînement dans l'est du Canada et fut posté en Europe. En quittant les Forces il décida de cultiver et prit un "homestead". Plus tard il acquit d'autres terrains.

David obtint son brevet de soudeur et son certificat de mécanicien de machineries lourdes. Il aimait piloter et devint pilote. Plus tard il arrosait par avion les champs des fermiers contre les mauvaises herbes.

Il était membre des pompiers volontaires de Donnelly, un membre actif de C.A.R.E. Présentement il est président de la Société agricole de Smoky River et un supporter loyal du tir de tracteur, dont il est un directeur provincial.

Il épousa une garde-malade d'Angleterre qui travaillait à l'hôpital de McLennan et ils construisirent, au sud de l'aéroport de Donnelly, une maison qui devint leur foyer.

CHAREST, ALBERT & ARKANSALL, VERA ELAINE

as told by Albert

Albert, the eldest son of John Charest and Adelaide Gagnon, came to Guy with his parents

in 1930 at the age of fifteen years. That first summer the family lived in Falher but Albert and his father would come to their homestead to cut logs on the neighboring school section. These logs were hauled to a clearing on SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 30-75-21-W5. They were so diligent as to have ready by Christmas of that year a house, a barn, a chicken coop all built of logs. The family then moved from Falher with the Model T Ford as well as a wagon pulled by horses as there was no snow that year at Christmas.



Albert & Vera Charest.

“The next summer Mother, the two girls and I cleared thirty acres of land by hand while Father worked for the neighbors for a little cash or sometimes an exchange of work. Raymond Cloutier broke these thirty acres with his 10-30 McCormick Deering tractor in exchange for our Model T car.

I later was lucky to work for my uncle, Jack Lucas, for ten dollars a month. This provided me with enough money to buy my \$0.65 can of Ottoman tobacco complete with cigarette paper every two weeks and some money to spare for my parents.

I started working in lumber camps for Mr. H. Maisonneuve in Donnelly and then in Golden, B.C. That is where I met my wife, Vera Elaine, who also worked in the bush. Her father had a contract cutting and hauling poles for a power company; she worked along side the men skidding with horses. She was a very strong person and skillful with horses. She could compete with any man in that line of work. We were married in 1951 and started to raise our family. By this time I



Charlie, Lena, Linda, Richard, Clara Charest.

had acquired SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 07-75-20 and $\frac{1}{2}$ 09-75-20 and would travel from Golden to Guy every spring to open and later cultivate this land. We moved to Guy but my wife became ill. After a two year bout with cancer she passed away on the 13th of August, 1958 leaving me with five very young children.

Following the advice of Rev. L. Collins, O.M.I. pastor at the R.C. parish of McLennan, I placed the children at the Mundare convent for two years. Then my sister, Rose, Mrs. Mike Sniezek, kindly offered to look after them, which she did for a year. I then moved with my mother and father who helped me look after the children. My oldest son, Charlie by then was of school age and



Albert aux temps des semences.

walked a mile to the Donnelly-Guy market road to catch the bus to go to school in Guy.

In 1960 I married Helen Chalifoux Jobbin who stood by my side till 1985 when she suffered a stroke.

I have been operating Albert's taxi out of High Prairie for the last ten years.

Albert Charest: n. 05-02-1914 m. 19-06-1951

Vera Elaine Arkansall: d. 12-08-1958

CHILDREN:

1. Charlie: n. 12-03-1952

He has two children and lives in Revelstoke.

2. Lena: n. 25-10-1953 m.

Bob Mason

She has six children and lives in Morinville.

3. Linda: n. 18-03-1955

She has three children and lives in Morinville.

4. Rick: n. 05-01-1957

He has two children and lives in Edmonton.

5. Clara Anne: n. 13-02-1958

She has three children and lives in Edmonton.

* * *

Albert, fils aîné de John et Adelaïde Gagnon arriva à Guy en 1930, avec ses parents alors qu'il avait quinze ans. A l'été, la famille demeurait à Falher et Albert et son père travaillaient sur leur "homestead". La famille déménagea sur la terre au moyen de l'auto Model T, et d'un wagon tiré par des chevaux.

L'été suivant, ma mère, les deux filles et moi-même avons défriché trente acres de terre, à la force de nos bras, tandis que notre père travaillait chez des voisins pour gagner un peu d'argent. Raymond Cloutier laboura ces trente acres avec son tracteur et accepta le Model T en échange.

J'ai travaillé aussi aux chantiers pour M. Honoré Maisonneuve à Donnelly puis à Golden, B.C. où j'ai rencontré mon épouse, Vera Elaine. Notre mariage eut lieu en 1951. A ce temps-là, j'avais du terrain. Nous avons déménagé à Guy. Mais mon épouse tomba malade, atteinte de cancer; elle est morte, le 12 août, 1958, me laissant avec cinq enfants.

Suivant les conseils du Rev. Père L. Collin, o.m.i., curé de la paroisse à Mclellan, je mis les enfants en pension à Mundare pour deux ans, puis ma soeur, Rose Snizek les prit sous sa tutelle pour un an.

Par la suite, je suis retourné vivre avec mes parents qui m'aidèrent à prendre soin de mes enfants.

En 1960, j'épousai Helen Chalifoux Jobbin qui fut à mes côtés jusqu'en 1985 alors qu'elle succomba à une attaque cérébrale.

Depuis dix ans je conduis "Albert's Taxi" à High Prairie, AB.

CHAREST, EDOUARD & COUILLARD, YVETTE

by Edouard

I, Edouard, was born to John Charest and Adelaïde Gagnon in Forest View, AB, the last of ten children.

I was raised on the farm and attended school in Whiteland, a stone throw away from our house. Most children came to school either on foot or with horses. School was fun: playing hockey on our pond with willow sticks at recess, rehearsals for the Christmas concert and playing ball in the springtime. I have fond memories of those years.



Edward Charest with pet moose (1945).

I also remember going with Dad to make firewood with horses and sleigh. We also melted snow for both the house and the livestock all winter long. A big stack of hay served as a shelter for both pigs and cattle. Everyone raised their own chickens, pigs and cattle, and had huge gardens; the vegetables were canned to preserve the food for a whole year. Another task was berry picking, also canned for preserves and jams, with a look out for bears as they were plenty. I even had one cub as a pet as well as a small moose. Rabbits were so plentiful we'd use a sling-shot to kill them. They'd live in the hay stack. Prairie chickens, ducks, and geese were also plentiful. Hunting for moose and deer was easy as the bush

was so thick you only had a small distance to go, sometimes they'd even show up in the yard to eat with the cattle. I remember Dad leaving with one shell and always coming back with some kind of meat. Bullets were expensive so no one practiced shooting for fun. Selling pigs was a source of cash for necessities like coffee, tea, flour, sugar and kerosene. Clothes were mostly homemade. Everyone had chores to do. A trip once a month was done by horse and wagon to Donnelly. Only a trail through thick bushes was available, with lots of mosquitoes and black flies for company.

After quitting school, I worked at many different jobs. My very first job was for Lionel Drouin for twenty-five cents an hour driving a Fordson tractor and a binder. I then worked for two years for Gerard Turcotte on a caterpillar, opening land. I also worked for seven years for Mr. Kozub in the Whitemud Creek area both farming and on a cat opening land. I was the first one to build a road (trail) to reach the highway from Whitemud across the creek. It was dangerous work, swamp and beaver dams everywhere. Winter time was spent in the bush falling with a power saw.

In 1959 I got married and lived for eight years on Dad's former quarter in Guy.

In 1968 we moved to Girouxville where I could expand my farming operation and be closer to my job. I worked for six years for the Municipal District No. 130. I started on a cat and went to grader operator, building and maintain-

ing roads all around Guy. Many will remember giving me coffee late into the night. Working fifteen to eighteen hours a day was common then as there was a lot more snow during those years. The pay was \$1.25 an hour. I held two jobs all the time, farming and grader operator.

Next I started trucking and I've been logging for the past nineteen years with gravel hauling in the summer. In 1985 I auctioned off my machines and rented my land. Now I'm only trucking. There's been an enormous change in the lifestyle, economy, working habits, both in farming and in trucking.

I'll never forget my early years of living in Guy and my many friends there.

Edouard Leon: n.08-12-1934

m.10-11-1959

Yvette Couillard: n.06-09-1939

CHILDREN:

1. Normand: n.05-12-1960

m.18-08-1978

1m: Denise Gervais: n.05-01-1960

a) Lisa Marie: n.12-11-1978

2m: Pierrette Dubois Henderon: n.16-06-1951

m.29-09-1984

a) Rachelle: n.26-08-1972

b) Christian: n.13-05-1974

c) Eve: n.31-01-1977

d) Claire: n.15-07-1978

2. Cecile Eva: n.16-08-1962

m.07-07-1984

Dwayne Kish: n.12-12-1962

3. Paul Rene: n.04-07-1964

4. Susan Jocelyne: n.27-09-1968

* * *

Je fus élevé sur la ferme et fréquentai l'école de Whiteland tout près de chez-nous. La plupart des élèves venaient à l'école à pied ou avec des chevaux. Aller à l'école était plaisant, pendant la récréation on jouait au hockey sur notre étang avec des branches de saules, il y avait les pratiques pour le concert de Noël et la balle-au-camp au printemps. J'ai de bons souvenirs de ces années-là.

Après avoir laissé l'école j'ai fait différents travaux.

En 1959 je me suis marié et vécu huit ans sur le quart de mon père à Guy.

En 1968, nous déménagions à Girouxville où j'ai pu agrandir mon entreprise et être plus près de mon travail. J'ai travaillé six ans pour la municipalité, construisant des chemins et les entretenant autour de Guy. Travailler de 15 à 18 heures par jour était normal car il y avait



R.1 Cécile, Yvette, Susan. R.2 Paul, Ed, Normand.

beaucoup plus de neige dans ce temps là. La paye était de 1,25 \$ l'heure.

Après cela je devins camionneur et j'ai charroyé du bois l'hiver et du gravier l'été pendant dix-neuf ans. En 1985 j'ai fait un encan pour vendre mes machines et j'ai loué mon terrain. Je suis camionneur seulement. Il y a eu beaucoup de changement dans le style de vie, l'économie et les habitudes de travail dans la culture comme dans le camionnage.

Je n'oublierai jamais mes premières années à Guy et mes nombreux amis.

CHAREST, JEAN & GAGNON, ADELAÏDE

by Rose Sniezek and Larry Charest

John was born in Benson, Minnesota, U.S.A., son of Bernard Charest and Oliva Tremblay.

Adelaïde Gagnon, his wife, was the daughter of Ludger Gagnon and Rose Carrier. She was born in Corinna, Minnesota, U.S.A. but moved to Beaumont, Alberta with her family in 1894 where they settled on a quarter section they had bought from the C.P.R. for \$3.00 an acre.



Roméo Brulotte, Rose Charest, Armande, Lorilda, Irène, Henri Brulotte, Larry, Albert, Aimé en 1928.

John and Adelaïde were married in Beaumont, Alberta and resided on a farm in New Sarepta where seven of their children were born. The land was of poor quality as half the quarter was under water. John heard, from his wife's brother, Mr. Frank Gagnon of Falher, that land was still available in the Peace River area.

John came to see for himself. He filed on homestead SE- 30-75-20-W5 the 25th of August, 1928. That area was sixteen miles south of Donnelly, and was later to become Guy. Mr. Charest was also pleased to find Catholic schools in the Falher and Donnelly area where the French language was taught.

So in March 1929, Mrs. Charest and her children left New Sarepta for Falher where they were

met by Mr. Frank Gagnon. They stayed at Mr. Gagnon's house for a few days. John, travelling by railroad with a carload of settler's effects, horses, cows, farm machinery and furniture arrived a week later. He rented a farm from Bob Theriault, a bachelor, and worked for Willie Brulotte earning \$80.00 a month that first summer. Then he rented land for two years. Raymond the eighth child was born in Falher.

John, a mill wright, also worked at sawmills for very low wages. Larry, his son recalls: "There were twelve at home and none of us were old enough to go out to work. Even if we could have done so there were no wages paid during the Hungry Dirty Thirties. My parents were able to get \$10.00 a month, known as Relief from the Government. It wasn't much but it bought the necessities: flour, sugar, tea, coffee."



R.1 Marie, Edouard, Raymond. R.2 Aime, John, Larry, Adelaïde, Rose, Lorilda, Armande, Irène. (June 1962)

John was very proud when all his land was opened. He had done it with his axe and sweat! He gave three acres on the south-east corner of his land for the Whiteland School site. Most of his children attended this school. Adelaïde was also trustee or secretary-treasurer for many years.

"We must not forget to mention our pet moose. It came and stayed on our farm eating with the horses and cows, following us to the Forest View Post Office or to the store in Guy, just like a faithful dog. One day it left probably to find a mate."

As the years passed, conditions on the farm improved, the children left one by one but my parents remained till the death of my father in 1956. Then Edward, the youngest boy continued to farm the land.

Jean Charest: n.10-03-1882 m.09-01-1912 d.12-03-1956

Adelaïde Gagnon: n.02-03-1890 d.19-06-1961



Marie with pet moose in 1945.

CHILDREN:

1. Rose: n.09-11-1912 m.28-03-1932
Michael Sniezek: n.16-09-1899 d.07-06-1976
First marriage in the Guy Church. (See Sniezek, Leo)
A second marriage to Hervé Bellerive: m.13-11-1976 d.20-11-1980
2. Albert: n.05-02-1914 1.m.19-06-1951
Vera Arkenstall: d.16-08-1958
(See Charest, Albert story)
3. Joseph Paul Aimé: n.29-01-1916 d.29-09-1976
4. Larry: n.28-01-1920 m.15-04-1974
Germaine Thibault Paradis: n.29-04-1916
(See Charest, Larry story)
5. Lorilda: n.01-12-1921
Frank Reboly. They have four children and live in Ontario.
6. Irene: n.17-12-1922 m.17-09-1953
Alphonse Ouellet: n.16-08-1913
They have four children and live in Edmonton.
7. Armande: n.11-11-1925 m.10-10-1944 d.08-11-1975
Lionel Drouin: n.25-12-1919 d.01-08-1977
(See Drouin, Lionel story)

8. Raymond: n.06-04-1928 m.28-04-1956
Frances Jones: n.26-02-1938
They have five children and live in Golden, B.C.
9. Marie: n.06-03-1931 1.m.07-05-1947
Charles Morin: n.05-11-1911 d.01-04-1977
2.m. Tony Coté: m.05-04-1984 d.24-06-1984
10. Edouard: n.08-12-1934 m.10-11-1959
Yvette Couillard: n.06-09-1939
(See Charest, Edouard story)

* * *

Jean et Adelaïde se sont mariés à Beaumont, Alberta et vécurent sur une ferme à New Sarepta où sept de leurs enfants sont nés. Jean apprit de son beau-frère Frank Gagnon de Falher qu'il y avait encore des terres disponibles dans la région de Rivière-la-Paix.

Jean est allé voir et a pris un "homestead" le 25 août 1928 à seize milles au sud de Donnelly. Il était heureux de trouver des écoles catholiques à Falher et à Donnelly où le français était enseigné.

En mars 1929, Mme Charest et ses enfants quittèrent New Sarepta, Alberta pour Falher où Frank Gagnon les attendait. Jean arriva une semaine plus tard. Il loua une ferme de Bob Thériault et travailla pour Willie Brulotte gagnant \$80.00 par mois le premier été. Puis il cultiva, louant du terrain pour deux ans. Un huitième enfant, Raymond est né à Falher.

Au printemps de 1931, la famille déménagea sur leur "homestead". Larry affirme que son père était bon chasseur. Le premier hiver il tua dix-huit orignaux. "Nous mangions beaucoup de "mulligan", un bouilli de viande sauvage et de l'égumes. Notre mère était bonne jardinière. Nous avions toujours assez à manger". Larry ajoute: "Je me souviens qu'un M. Aubin demeurait avec nous à ce temps-là. Il était bien babile avec une scie-à-bûches et nous fournissait du bois de chauffage".

Jean, constructeur de moulin à scie travaillait pour de pauvres gages. Ce n'était pas beaucoup mais ça achetait le nécessaire: farine, sucre, thé, café.

Jean était bien fier quand tout son terrain fut ouvert à la hache. Il donna trois acres pour le site de l'école de Whiteland. La plupart des enfants ont fréquenté cette école.

Les années passèrent et les conditions sur la ferme s'améliorèrent et les enfants quittèrent l'un après l'autre mais mes parents sont restés jusqu'à la mort de mon père en 1956. Alors, Edouard, le cadet, continua à cultiver la terre.

CHAREST, LARRY & THIBEAULT (PARADIS), GERMAINE

by Larry

I was born the 28th of January, 1920, and baptized in the Beaumont, AB, church. When not quite seven years old, I started walking to school in New Sarepta, a distance of seven miles, fourteen miles return, every school day.



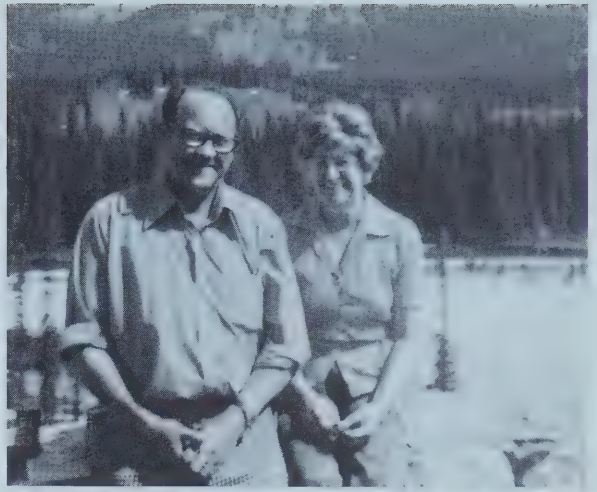
Larry Charest at Raoul Lambert's lumber camp in Whitemud Creek, with friends Adrien Gamache and Rosaire Nairon.

In 1928 my parents decided to move to Falher. That first year my dad worked at seeding for a local farmer driving six horses on the drill. In the fall we rented a farm from Bob Theriault and stayed there a year.

In 1931 we moved to a homestead in Guy. There was no school in the area at that time. So, Mr. Willie Brulotte made arrangements with the Dept. of Education to hold classes in the living-room of his house. A teacher, Miss Bernadette Mathieu was hired and I attended school there for one year. The following year a school named Whiteland was built on our land. No more long distances for us to walk to school now.

As a young man I spent four and one half years in the Army as a cook. After the war I acquired V.L.A. land SE 15- 75-20-W5 and SW 14-75-20-W5 and started farming on my own.

In 1971 I met Mrs. Germaine (Thibeault) Paradis, widowed, courted her and married her in McLennan on April 14, 1974. I then sold my farm to Gabriel Turcotte and Claude Turcotte, and bought a house in Kelowna, B.C., where I still reside.



Larry & Germaine Charest.

Larry Charest: n.28-01-1920

m.15-04-1974

Germaine Thibeault Paradis: n.29-04-1916

* * *

Quand je n'avais pas tout à fait sept ans, je commençai à marcher à l'école à New Sarepta, AB, une distance de sept milles, quatorze milles aller et retour.

Après être déménagé à Falher en 1928, nous déménagions sur un "homestead" à Guy en 1931. Comme il n'y avait pas d'école dans la région dans ce temps là, M. Willie Brulotte fit des arrangements avec le Ministère de l'Éducation pour avoir des classes dans le salon de sa maison. Mlle Bernadette Mathieu fut engagée et je fréquentai l'école là pour un an. L'année suivante une école nommée Whiteland était construite sur notre terrain. Plus de longues distances à marcher pour aller à l'école.

Comme jeune homme j'ai passé quatre ans et demi dans l'armée comme cuisinier. Après la guerre j'obtins du terrain par l'intermédiaire de V.L.A. et commençai à cultiver pour moi-même.

En 1971, je rencontrai Mme Germaine (Thibeault) Paradis, qui était veuve, la courtisai et la mariai à McLennan. J'ai donc vendu mes fermes à Gabriel et Claude Turcotte, achetai une maison à Kelowna, C.B. où je demeure encore.

CHAREST, LOUIS

par Gilberte Lemay

C'est en 1928 que M. Charest arrivait ici, avant même que cette paroisse fut fondée. Il prit

le terrain S.E. 27- 75-21. C'était un photographe amateur qui développait lui-même ses photos. Le dimanche il prenait des portraits du groupe qui était à la messe. Dans ce temps-là, la messe était célébrée dans des maisons privées, car l'église n'était pas encore bâtie. Partout où il allait, il apportait sa caméra.

Il demeura ici quelques années, ensuite il retourna dans l'est. Sa terre fut vendue à M. Frank Brulotte.

* * *

In 1928, Mr. Charest arrived here, even before the parish was established. He took a homestead. He was an amateur photographer who would develop his own photos. On Sundays he would photograph the group attending Mass. At this time Mass was celebrated in private homes because the church wasn't built yet. Wherever he would go, he would bring his camera.

He stayed here a few years then returned down east. His land was sold to Mr. Frank Brulotte.

CHRETIEN, JOSEPH

par Gilberte Lemay

Jos Chrétien, célibataire, est venu de Debden, Saskatchewan en 1941. Il prit une demi-section de terre, E ½ 75-21-W5. Comme ce terrain n'était pas trop boisé, il en a défriché beaucoup en peu de temps. En 1943, il avait cent acres en culture, mais en 1952 il subit une lourde perte quand un feu brûla son écurie ainsi que ses deux chevaux.

En 1954, il fit un séjour à l'hôpital de McLennan, et ensuite la maladie continua son oeuvre et il fallut l'envoyer dans un hôpital de

la ville; c'est là qu'il est décédé après plusieurs mois de maladie.

Ces terrains appartiennent aujourd'hui à Gilles Desbarnais.

* * *

Jos Chrétien, a bachelor, came from Debden, Saskatchewan in 1941. He took a half-section of land. As this land was not complete bush he opened a great deal in no time. In 1943 he had one hundred acres under cultivation. In 1952 he suffered a great loss when a fire destroyed his barn and two horses.

In 1954 he had to go to the McLennan hospital for a spell and then the illness continued and he had to go to a city hospital; it is there that he died after many months of illness.

His land now belongs to Gilles Desbarnais.

CINQ-MARS, JOSEPH RENE & BOILY, YVONNE

raconté à Cécile Aubin

Joseph, le troisième enfant d'une famille de onze enfants, est né le 23 juillet 1923, à St-Pierre Joly, Manitoba. Son père Urbain Cinq-Mars et sa mère Emma Lafrenière habitaient une petite ferme à un mille du village. Jos se souvient bien de la terre d'un mille et demi de longueur et d'un demi mille de largeur qui longeait la rivière Au Rat, tout comme les terres du Québec, le long du St-Laurent, au temps des seigneuries. C'est dire que Jos grandit dans une ambiance très canadienne-française. A l'école du village l'enseignement se faisait en français sauf l'heure d'anglais.



Joe Chrétien à son arrivée.



Irène, Yvonne avec bébé Marian, Roméo, Roma et Jos Cinq-Mars.

En 1949 Jos épouse Yvonne Boily, avant dernière fille d'une famille de dix enfants vivants dont le père est Pierre Ernest Boily et la mère Rhéa Bois de Labrocquerie, Manitoba. Lors de leur rencontre, Yvonne restait chez sa soeur, Mme. Lambert et travaillait dans un atelier de couture à St-Pierre Joly.

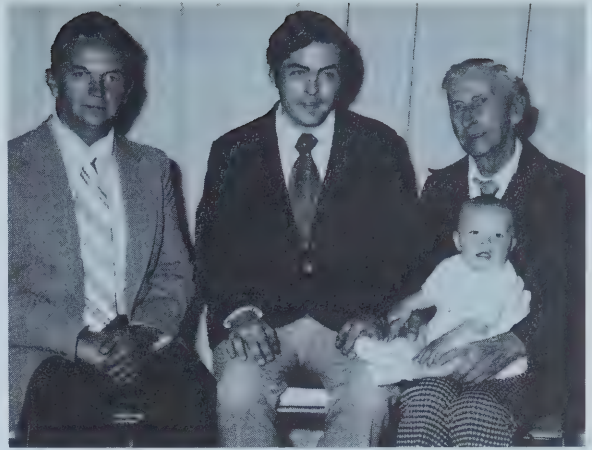
Jos et Yvonne s'installent à la ferme paternelle où naissent leurs deux premiers enfants. Quand la terre est vendue à des Français, le frère d'Yvonne qui demeurait déjà à Falher lui écrit: "Vous n'avez rien qui vous attache là-bas, pourquoi ne pas vous en venir à Falher, avec nous? Vous pourrez prendre un "homestead"; ça ne coûte que \$10.00."

C'est le déménagement — le premier de plusieurs. La famille de quatre arrive à Falher, le premier mai 1952. Ils s'installent tant bien que mal dans une maison abandonnée qui avait même servi de grainerie, à cinq milles au sud de Falher. M. Willie Brulotte et sa famille avait aussi habité cette même maison près du crique Peavine. Les Cinq-Mars nettoient et rendent ce logis habitable et y demeurent pendant deux ans. Pendant ce temps Jos est employé par M. Honoré Maisonneuve de Donnelly soit pour travailler au moulin à scie ou au chantier. La famille déménage à Donnelly afin d'être plus près du travail.

Parce qu'il fallait avoir demeuré en Alberta deux ans avant de pouvoir prendre un "homestead", ce n'est qu'en 1954 que Jos fait une demande pour NE¼ 32-74-20-W5. Le premier janvier de cette même année, la famille déménage dans une maison vacante de Little Smoky Farm Industries qui se situe à dix-huit milles au sud de Donnelly. L'hiver Jos travaille soit à la Municipalité de Smoky River ou au moulin à scie Maisonneuve (12 ans) et aussi pour les fermiers de la région dans le but d'échanger du temps pour l'emploi de leurs machines. Après une journée de travail pour ses voisins, Jos cassait du terrain chez-lui avec un vieux John Deere à deux vitesses.

En 1957, une des maisons vacantes de Little Smoky Farm Industries est déménagée sur le "homestead" qui heureusement est sur la grande route allant à High Prairie, et Guy devient le chez-nous stable et permanent.

Les quatre enfants voyagent par autobus à l'école de Guy, et la vie est plus rassurante. La maman Yvonne contribue aussi par son travail à l'extérieur du foyer. Elle travaille six mois à l'hôpital de McLennan, six mois à la mission de Grouard et onze années au foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan. Les dernières années ce voyage de trente-deux milles, soir et matin est



4 générations de Cinq-Mars: Jos, Roméo, Urbain et Michel.

plus agréable parce qu'il est fait en compagnie d'une bonne voisine, Paulette Bisson, sur de bons chemins pavés.

Maintenant les enfants sont tous établis et Jos et Yvonne sont à leur retraite. Ils se proposent de vivre aussi longtemps à Guy que leur santé va leur permettre. La ferme leur est très chère et ils sont entourés de bons voisins.

Joseph René Cinq-Mars: n. 23-07-1923

m. 03-09-1949

Yvonne Boily: n. 02-02-1931

Enfants:

1) Roméo: n. 28-05-1950 m.

Jeannette Caron: n. 30-05-1946

Ils ont deux enfants et demeurent à Falher, Alberta.

2) Irène: n. 12-09-1951 m.

Norman Tanguay:

Ils ont deux enfants et demeurent à Peace River, Alberta.

3) Roma: n. 11-01-1954 m.

David Borzel:

Ils ont deux enfants et demeurent à Slave Lake, Alberta.

4) Marian: n. 29-06-1963

Marian travaille actuellement à Slave Lake.

* * *

Joseph was born in Manitoba on a small farm and got his schooling in french except for one hour of english. When he married Yvonne she was a seamstress.

They settled on the home farm with two older children. When the land was sold they joined Yvonne's brother in Falher, May 1st, 1952. They lived in a granary made into a home for two

years. Jos then worked at the sawmill owned by Honoré Maisonneuve so the family moved to Donnelly.

After two years in Alberta, Joseph took a homestead and the family moved again. During winter Jos worked either at the Municipality of Smoky River, the Maisonneuve mill or for other farmers. Guy became the home for the family but Yvonne worked outside the home, at the hospital, at the mission in Grouard and at the nursing home in McLennan. The couple is now retired but still living on the farm.

CLOUTIER, AIME & BOULANGER, MARIE ANNE EVA

by Berthe Cloutier

Aime was born August 12, 1889 at Ste-Apoline, Montmagny District, Que. On July 6, 1914 he married Marie Anne Eva Boulanger, daughter of David Boulanger and Alphonsine Morin. Aime worked on crushers and steam engines for some time before becoming foreman mechanic. They resided in St. Thomas de Montmagny until 1930 when the decision was made to come out west with their ten children. They were met at the train by his brothers Omer, Elzear, Irénée (Slim)



M. et Mme Aime Cloutier married June 6, 1914.



This Twin City Tractor was won on a bet by Aime Cloutier after a few beers in the bar. If he could start the tractor within half an hour it was his; it took 20 minutes.

who had already settled out west. Josephine, their only sister, had chosen to live in Quebec.

Aime Cloutier: n.12-08-1889 m.06-07-1914

Marie Anne Eva Boulanger:

CHILDREN:

1. Yvette
Herve Drouin (See Herve Drouin)
2. Roland
Marie Berthe Fortier (See Roland Cloutier)
3. Rose
Robert Beard
They have two children, Gille and Gail.
4. Jeanne
Phillippe Drouin (See Phillippe Drouin)
5. Marie Anne
Bernard Doris
They have tree children, Pat, Stanley and Anne.
6. Marie Ange
Gerry Morin (See Gerry Morin)
7. Patrick
Marie Shaw
They have three children, Pat, Stanley and Anne.
8. Henry
9. Paul
10. Fernand
Juliette Collins
a) Richard
11. Florence
Normand Langdon
a) Grant

* * *

En 1914 et 1915 M. Aimé Cloutier conduisait l'ambulance pour les soldats blessés qui débarquaient du bateau venant d'outre-mer et les transportaient de Montmagny à Québec. Il a travaillé sur des broyeurs et comme mécanicien sur des engins à vapeur et sur des bateaux sur le St-Laurent, avant de devenir mécanicien contremaître au garage de M. Légaré. Le couple demeura à St-Thomas de Montmagny jusqu'en 1930 alors que la décision fut prise de venir dans l'Ouest avec leurs dix enfants. Au train ils furent accueillis par ses frères Omer, Elzéar et Irénée qui étaient déjà établis dans l'ouest. Les trois frères avaient déjà bâti le "shack" pour Aimé afin de recevoir la famille. Ils avaient équarri toutes les pièces pour bâtir l'église de la première mission au sud de Falher. Le "shack" d'Aimé fut ensuite déménagé de chez Elzéar à cinq milles au sud où il est encore en partie.

Mme Cloutier recevait souvent les colons de Whitemud car souvent ils ne pouvaient pas passer la rivière Smoky et devaient attendre que les conditions de traversée soient meilleures. Elle leur donnait à manger, soignant les chevaux et souvent les gardait à coucher. C'était bien apprécié des colons!

CLOUTIER, ELZEAR & BLANCHET, MARGUERITE

by Marguerite Cloutier

Elzear was born at St. Appoline, Montmagny, P.Q. to Elzear and Josephine Mercier. He was the youngest of five children. He had three brothers and one sister.

In 1912 Elzear came west to Alberta in search of land. In 1915 he filed on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -3-76-21-W5. When W.W.I. was declared Elzear volunteered for the army. In 1917 he was wounded and had to have his left leg amputated. He suffered all his life from this leg. He used to say he could feel it as if it was still there and he had a lot of pain. He was discharged from the army on September 3, 1918. Elzear came back to his land and took SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -32-76-21 as a war grant; with a lot of courage and determination he took on the task of clearing land and building a home.

On the 25th of July 1922 Elzear married Marguerite Blanchet who had come to Canada from Switzerland in 1920. They were married at their farm home. Together they started farming and raising a family. They loved animals and nature. The outdoors was a big part of their lives. Marguerite used to walk often to her parents' place about two miles away with her gun to shoot partridges or rabbits as much for the sport as to have food on the table.



Iréné, Omer, Aime, Elzéar, seated in wagon Rose and Jeanne.

The children also enjoyed the outdoors. Swimming, skating, riding the horses was for every one. They had a beautiful black and white pony by the name of Teddy. He was the envy of every child around, I'm sure! The children all



Marguerite and Elzéar Cloutier.

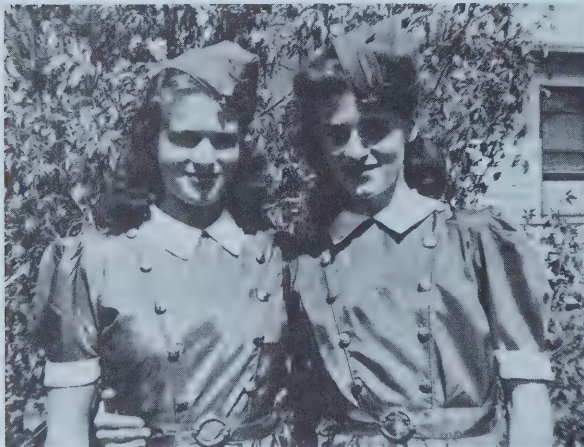
went to school at Ballater No 1. When teachers got scarce and it was not known if Ballater would be in operation in the early forties, Elzear moved the family to the town of Falher so the children could attend school. They stayed a few years but missed the farm and came back.

One of the highlights of the Cloutier family's years on the farm was when Elzear's sister, Joséphine Lynnh, came to visit with her daughter, May, 1951.

In 1955, the children having all left, the farm was sold. Elzear and Marguerite moved to Edmonton along with Mrs. Cloutier's mother who had been living with them for a few years.

Elzear passed away in Edmonton. Marguerite stayed in her house till the late sixties. At that time she sold and made her home with her daughter Edvige and family in St. Albert, AB. She travelled a lot and at one time had moved in an apartment in Edmonton. She is presently living with another daughter, Josephine Turenne of Calahoo, AB.

We are proud to have had such friendly and warm people as our neighbors during our stay in the Ballater region.



Joséphine & Marie.

Elzear Cloutier; n.20-11-1892 m.25-07-1922 d.17-02-1959 Marguerite Blanchet: n.09-03-1899

CHILDREN:

1. Edward; n.21-05-1923
2. Marie; n.09-04-1925
3. Josephine; n.09-04-1925
4. Albert; n.09-02-1927
5. Marguerite (La Puce); n.28-07-1928
6. Edvige; n.09-09-1933

* * *

Elzéar est né à Ste-Appoline, Montmagny, P.Q. de Elzéar Cloutier et de Joséphine Mercier. Il était le plus jeune de cinq enfants. Il avait trois frères et une soeur.

En 1912, Elzéar vint en Alberta en vue de s'établir. En 1915 il prit un "homestead", le SE 31-76-21-W5. Quand la guerre fut déclarée, Elzéar s'enrôla comme volontaire. En 1917, il fut blessé et on dut lui amputer la jambe gauche. Toute sa vie il souffrit de cette jambe. En 1918 il fut démobilisé de l'armée. Il revint sur sa ferme et prit une autre terre comme octroi de guerre, le SW-32-76-21. Avec beaucoup de courage et de détermination, il entreprit la tâche de défricher son terrain et de bâtir une demeure.

Le 25 juillet 1922, il épousa Marguerite Blanchet qui était venue de la Suisse au Canada en 1920. Ensemble ils commencèrent à cultiver leur ferme et à élever une famille. Ils aimaient les animaux, la nature, la vie en plein air. Tout comme eux, les enfants jouissaient de cette vie, de la natation, du patinage, de la chasse, de l'équitation. Ils commencèrent leurs études à l'école Ballater No 1. Vers 1940, Elzéar déménagea sa famille au village de Falher afin que les enfants puissent aller à l'école.

Après quelques années, ils furent heureux de revenir sur leur ferme. En 1955, les enfants étant tous partis, Elzéar et Marguerite vendirent la ferme et allèrent vivre à Edmonton. C'est là qu'Elzéar mourut. Marguerite continua à vivre dans sa maison pour plusieurs années, puis vendit la maison et alla demeurer avec sa fille Edvige à St. Albert, Alberta.

Actuellement, elle demeure avec une autre de ses filles, Joséphine Turenne, à Callahoo, Alberta.

CLOUTIER, NOEL & SHEPHERD, HELEN

by Berthe Cloutier

Noel, born December 28, 1918 is the son of Aimé Cloutier and Marie Anne Belanger. He came to the Ballater region with his parents in 1930 at the age of thirteen. For some time he lived with l'abbé F. Mallet in the newly built sacristy at the back of the church, that served as rectory. The young man performed household chores, served mass while continuing his education.

When old enough he filed on a homestead five miles west of Guy. In 1939 he returned to Quebec to work for his uncles Norman and Lynch at Rapide Blanc Dam in Abitibi, P.Q.

In 1944, then in Georgetown, Ontario, he worked as a specialized mechanic in automatic



Noël & Helen Cloutier.

transmissions. It was at this time that he married Helen Shepherd, born September 1, 1925.

In 1945 he returned to the homestead in Guy with his young bride attempting to open land and working for Chalifoux Motors in Falher, AB.

Noel and Helen had three children: Norman, Bobby and Raymond who attended school in Guy. The family moved back to Georgetown, Ontario in 1965.

Noel passed away on July 16, 1979.

* * *

Noel, né le 28 décembre 1918, est le fils de Aimé Cloutier et de Marie Anne Boulanger. Il arriva dans la région de Ballater avec ses parents en 1930, à l'âge de treize ans. Pour quelques temps, il demeura avec l'abbé Mallet dans la sacristie de l'église qui servait comme presbytère. Le jeune homme accomplissait de petits travaux, servait la messe tout en continuant son éducation.

Quand il fut en âge de le faire, il prit un "homestead" à cinq milles à l'ouest de Guy. En 1939, il retourna au Québec pour y travailler pour ses oncles Norman et Lynch à Rapide Blanc Dam en Abitibi.

En 1944 il alla travailler à Georgetown, Ontario. Il y épousa Helen Shepherd, née le 1er

septembre 1925. En 1945 il revint avec sa jeune épouse sur son "homestead" à Guy. Il s'efforça de défricher son terrain tout en travaillant pour Chalifoux Motors à Falher.

Noël et Helen eurent trois enfants: Norman, Bobby et Raymond qui allèrent à l'école à Guy. La famille retourna à Georgetown en 1965. Noël est décédé le 16 juillet 1979.

CLOUTIER, RAYMOND

par Gilberte Lemay

Raymond Cloutier, célibataire, neveu de M. Aurèle Lambert arriva à Debden, Saskatchewan en 1928. Il venait de La Sarre, Abitibi, P.Q., pour visiter son oncle et sa tante et pour connaître ses cousins et cousines qu'il n'avait jamais vus.

Comme son oncle parlait de Rivière La Paix en Alberta, il s'y intéressa beaucoup. C'est alors qu'il suivit la famille d'Aurèle Lambert et vint prendre du terrain à Guy avec son oncle et ses cousins.



Raymond Cloutier.

Il s'est bâti une petite maison sur sa ferme située N.E. 24-75-21-W5 et y demeura seul, car il était aussi bon cuisinier. Il défricha plusieurs acres de terre et cultiva avec ses cousins. Comme sa santé n'était pas très bonne, il dut subir deux opérations et toujours son oncle le recueillait chez lui pour sa convalescence.

Après quelques années, voyant que sa santé demeurerait toujours chancelante, il décida de retourner dans l'Est rejoindre ses frères et soeurs; ses parents étant déjà morts depuis longtemps. Il vendit sa terre à M. Arthur Gosselin. Il mourut là-bas quelques années plus tard.

* * *

Raymond Cloutier, a bachelor, nephew of Mr. Aurèle Lambert came to Debden, Saskatchewan in 1928. He came from La Sarre, Abitibi, P.Q.

to visit his uncle and aunt and to get to know his cousins whom he had never seen.

As his uncle talked about Peace River in Alberta, he really got interested. This is how he followed Aurèle Lambert's family and took up land in Guy with his uncle and cousins.

He built himself a small house on a farm and lived alone, as he was a good cook. He opened many acres of land and farmed with his cousins. As his health was not too good, he had to have two operations and his uncle always invited him home for his convalescence.

After a few years, seeing that his health was always dwindling he decided to go back East to join his brothers and sisters; his parents were already deceased. He sold his land to Mr. Arthur Gosselin. He died over there after a few years.

CLOUTIER, ROLAND & FORTIER, BERTHE

par Berthe Cloutier

Roland est né le 15 avril 1917 à Montmagny, P.Q., fils de Aimé Cloutier et de Marie-Anne Bélanger, d'une famille de douze enfants dont six garçons et six filles.

Il est venu avec ses parents en Alberta, le 15 avril 1930, le jour de sa fête, à quatre milles à l'ouest de Guy. Il a travaillé bien fort pour faire l'achat d'une terre. En 1943, il est allé à Whitehorse pendant l'hiver travailler pour l'armée. Il a aussi travaillé pour M. Marius Blanchet. Pendant ce temps il défrichait aussi sa terre.

Roland a rencontré Berthe Fortier à son retour de Whitehorse. Berthe est la fille de Cyrille Fortier et Alma Rémillard née à Ste-Rose de Watford, Cté Dorchester, le 28 décembre 1921.

Je suis venue avec mes parents en Alberta à l'âge de six ans, et nous sommes allés à la petite école de Ballater No 1, qui était à deux milles à travers les champs. Nous passions chez McDo-nald, Gibello et Ben May. Nous manquions beaucoup d'école car quand nous suivions le chemin c'était à quatre milles et souvent pendant l'hiver il y avait trois pieds de neige.

A seize ans je suis restée avec mon frère et ma mère. Ma Mère marchait avec peine car elle souffrait de rhumatisme. Nous avons travaillé fort pour garder la terre; je trayais cinq vaches et je faisais le beurre pour vendre. J'aidais aussi Simon dans le champ.

Tout cela ne nous empêchait pas de sortir et d'aller danser souvent.

Le premier décembre 1945, j'ai marié Roland Cloutier, nous avons bâti une petite maison sur sa ferme. J'ai pris un "homestead" un mille plus loin; avec une section de terre nous vivions très bien. Je semais toujours un grand jardin et nous ne manquions pas de viande car Roland était un bon chasseur. Nos garçons André et Emile prenaient leur tour pour aller chasser avec leur père. Roland avait bâti un "shack de log" sur son "homestead" NW 19-75-22 W5, tout près de la rivière Little Smoky.

Roland était bon cultivateur et aussi bon mécanicien; il réparait toutes les machines. Cécile aidait à faire la routine de la maison lorsque j'aidais mon mari aux travaux des champs.

Chez nous c'était la place pour se divertir pendant le temps des fêtes. Il y avait toujours du chant et de la musique.



R.1 Rolland, Darleen Duchesne, Berthe. R.2 André, Emile, Cécile.



Roland Cloutier at his hunting lodge.

Nous avons aussi fait de beaux voyages au Québec, à Ste-Rose et à Montmagny P.Q., pour revoir l'endroit où nous sommes nés Roland et moi. Nous sommes aussi allés aux Etats-Unis revoir un frère. Que de beaux souvenirs!

En janvier 1974 nous avons vendu nos terres et nous sommes déménagés au village de Falher.

Roland est décédé le 25 novembre 1974. Ma fille Cécile me fut d'un grand secours à ce moment-là. Restée seule j'ai fait de la couture pour les autres. J'ai aussi été cuisinière aux camps des compagnies d'huile et à la Villa Beauséjour.

Maintenant mon plaisir est de revoir mes enfants et petits-enfants.

Roland Cloutier: n. 15-04-1917 m. 01-12-1945 d. 25-11-1974

Berthe Fortier: n. 28-12-1921

ENFANTS:

1- Cécile: n. 29-12-1946 m. 14-07-1967

George Duchesne: n. 11-03-1944

a) Darlene: n. 11-11-1968

b) Carmen: n. 28-04-1972

2ième mariage Doris Harold le 27-03-1986

2- Emile: n. 01-03-1952 m. 03-08-1973

Marilyn McGarre: n. 27-08-1953

a) Brenda: n. 11-11-1975

b) Christina: n. 07-06-1977

3- André: n. 25-08-1956 m. 21-10-1977

Laureen Gervais: n. 06-08-1958

a) Steven: n. 25-03-1980

b) Cindy: n. 14-06-1982

c) Kevin: n. 21-05-1986

* * *

Roland came from Montmagny, P.Q. to Alberta with his parents on April 15, 1930, and settled four miles west of Guy. He worked very hard to buy land. In 1943, he went to Whitehorse during the winter to work for the army. He also worked for Mr. Marius Blanchet. During this time, he was also opening his land.

Roland met Berthe upon his return from Whitehorse. "I came to Alberta with my parents at the age of six and went to Ballater No 1 school two miles across fields. We would cross McDonald's, Gibello's and Ben May's land. We missed a lot of school because when we followed the road the distance was four miles and often in winter there was three feet of snow. At sixteen I stayed with Simon and my mother who was suffering from rheumatism. We worked hard to keep our land. I milked five cows and made butter to sell. I also helped Simon in the fields. All

this did not prevent us from going out and dancing often.

After marrying Roland Cloutier, we built a small house on this farm. I took a homestead one mile further; with a section of land we now lived very well. I always put in a big garden and we never lacked meat because Roland was a good hunter.

Our sons André and Emile took turns hunting with their dad. Roland had built a log shack on his homestead near Little Smoky, a shelter for his hunting trips.

Roland was a good farmer and a good mechanic; he would repair all the machinery. Cécile would help around the house when I would help my husband in the fields.

Our home was a place to enjoy ourselves especially at Christmas time. There was always singing and music.

We also went on beautiful trips in Québec to see the place where we were born. We also went to the States to see a brother.

In January 1974 we sold our land and moved to Falher.

Living alone after Roland's death in November, 1974, I did sewing for others. I was also a cook for oil camps and at the Villa Beauséjour.

My joy now is to see my children and grandchildren.

CONKLIN, HARRIS & RENN

by Bill Conklin

Harris and Renn Conklin were originally from Luray, Kansas and had moved to Garber, Oklahoma, in later years. It was from this place that they migrated northward, finally reaching Grouard in 1913. Along with their three children Laurine, Orville and Ellen, they prepared for the journey to the Promised Land on the Peavine Creek. Included with the family, were my Dad's two brothers, George and Boyd and a niece, Lois Wilkinson, (later Mrs. Issac Dupuis). It was a beautiful autumn day in September of 1913, when the heavily laden wagon pulled by two mules, named "Ranger and Slats", pulled away from Grouard. It was the beginning of two hard days of travel. The first night, my Dad camped near Pruden's Trading Post on the edge of Winagami Lake. The following day he reached Stinking Lake (Kimiwan Lake today) and here the mules refused to drink water from the lake. This was of much concern to my Dad as he pondered what the water supply would be further on. Fortunately, he found a slough some miles away from the lake and the mules drank from it. Somewhere south of present day McLennan, they followed an old Indian trail that eventually brought them



William (Bill) and Dolores Conklin now live in Langley, B.C.

seven miles south of Falher and one mile west, on the Peavine Creek. My Father filed on NW- $\frac{1}{4}$ -32-76-21-W5 and my uncles George and Boyd on NW- $\frac{1}{4}$ -32-76-21-W5 and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ -31-76-21-W5. Here life started for the Conklin family. Ten children were born in our house on the farm. We suffered many hardships through the Depression years. My Father worked for the railroad on many jobs as it was being constructed across the district. We raised our own livestock and vegetables and ground our own wheat for flour. In later years we had honey bees. Deer and moose supplied us with fresh meat during the long winter months. We had to walk two miles to the Ballater School. In the winter time, when a horse was available, it was hitched to a caboose with a wooden stove and this helped my younger brothers and sisters get to school. I made my own skis and would cut across the fields to get to school. I have fond memories of the Ballater School. This gave us the opportunity to make friends and to learn. One day at school, someone missed a fly ball, it bounced off a head and found its way through a window pane and into the school. As I and two others were involved, none would tell whose head had caused it. We, three were kept after school for punishment. It was a hot sultry day and the quietness in the school got the best of the teacher. He went into a deep sleep.

After thirty minutes of listening to his grunts and snoring, we thought we had gained our penance. So we carefully tip-toed out of the school and raced home. Later on, we found out that he slept there till 7:00 pm and we never heard anymore about the broken pane.

On January 23, 1936, my little brother, Ernest, aged six years died suddenly at home. At the time, it was thought he had scarlet fever and thus our home was quarantined. After his death and before the burial he was left in a room with all the windows open. After one day, he was frozen hard. It was discovered that he died of rheumatic fever. This was a sad time for all of us, as no one could visit the family, during this tragedy.

With all the set-backs, we carried on. We were a close knit family. We were fortunate in having good drinking water. Just a short distance away from the house on the bank of the Peavine Creek, Dad found a flowing well which is still there.

In 1946, the whole family moved to Vancouver, B.C. Of the three children who came with my folks, only Ellen survives today. Both my father and mother are buried at Surrey, B.C. I have returned several times to visit my cousins and friends at Falher and the farm site. The corner foundation of the house still remained a few years ago; the same corner where I was born in 1923, and also the corner where my little brother froze after death, awaiting the reason of his mysterious death. What emotions goes through one's mind as one tries to relive the years of one's youth. Loaded memories, that you can never forget and the urge to come back for one more visit. I am presently residing with my wife Dolores at Langley, B.C. I work for the Security Section at the Langley Museum.

CHILDREN:

Orville deceased, Ellen, Edith, the twins Harris and Hazel Lorna, Bill, Margaret, Ernest, deceased, Jack, Ruth and Don.

* * *

Harris et Renn sont partis de Garber, Oklahoma, pour venir dans le Nord, arrivant à Grouard en 1913 avec leur trois enfants, Laurine, Orville et Ellen. Deux frères de mon père, George et Boyd et une nièce Lois Wilkinson les accompagnaient. En septembre 1913 ils partirent de Grouard avec une voiture tirée par deux mules. Après deux jours ils arrivèrent à sept milles au sud et un mille à l'ouest de Falher. Mon père et mes deux oncles prirent chacun un "homestead". Dix enfants naquirent dans

notre maison sur la ferme. Mon père travaillait sur le chemin de fer qui était en construction à travers le district. Nous élevions nos bêtes à cornes et nos propres légumes, moulions notre blé en farine. Plus tard, nous avions des abeilles. Les chevreuils et les orignaux nous fournissaient en viande fraîche durant le long hiver. Nous devions marcher deux milles à l'école de Ballater. L'hiver alors qu'un cheval était disponible, il était attelé à une "caboose" munie d'un poêle à bois et ceci aidait mes jeunes frères et soeurs à se rendre à l'école. J'ai fait mes propres skis et piquais à travers champs pour me rendre à l'école; j'ai de bons souvenirs de l'école de Ballater. Elle nous donnait l'occasion de se faire des amis et d'apprendre.

Le 23 janvier 1935, mon petit frère, Ernest, âgé de 6 ans est mort soudainement à la maison. A ce temps on pensait qu'il avait la fièvre scarlatine et notre foyer fut mis en quarantaine. Son corps resta dans une chambre avec les fenêtres ouvertes. Après un jour il était gelé. Ce fut découvert plus tard qu'il était mort de fièvre rhumatismale. Ce fut un temps bien triste puisque personne ne pouvait nous visiter durant cette tragédie. Malgré les épreuves nous tenions le coup; nous étions une famille très proche.

Nous étions chanceux d'avoir de la bonne eau. Tout près de nous sur les bords du crique Peavine, mon père trouva un bon puits. Il y est encore.

En 1946, toute la famille est déménagée à Vancouver, C.B. Des trois enfants venus avec mes parents, il n'y a qu'Ellen qui a survécu.

Je suis revenu plusieurs fois pour visiter mes cousins et amis à Falber et le vieux site de la ferme. Je demeure présentement avec ma femme Dolores à Langley, C.B. Je travaille pour le Musée de Langley dans la section sécuritaire.

COOPER, JACK

by Françoise Dechief

Mr. Jack Cooper came from Scotland to file on SW-35-76-21-W5 in 1920. He was a veteran from the first World War in the British Army, a good looking bachelor who wore glasses and smoked the pipe. Before selling out and moving to Vancouver, he served as a secretary to the Ballater North school. His land was bought by Mr. John Lacourse. Mr. Cooper came from Ballater, Scotland and that is how the Ballater School and Post office were named after a town in that country.

* * *

M. Jack Cooper vint d'Ecosse pour prendre

un terrain en 1920. Il était un combattant de la première guerre mondiale dans l'armée britannique, un beau célibataire qui portait des verres et fumait la pipe. Avant de vendre et de déménager à Vancouver, il servit comme secrétaire à l'école de Ballater Nord. Son terrain fut acquis par M. John Lacourse. M. Cooper venait de Ballater, Ecosse et c'est ainsi que l'école et le bureau de poste furent nommés d'après une petite ville dans son pays.

CRONE, JAMES (JIM) & WILSON, MYRA

by Myra

James B. Crone, son of James Lotimer and Bernice Drynan and Myra Wilson, daughter of Frederick Ford and Janet Olive Sutherland were both born in Lashburn, Saskatchewan, where they were high school sweethearts. After we finished Grade twelve, Jim trained to be a telegrapher at the Lashburn CN station and I took a secretarial course. We were married April 17, 1958, and took up residence in Edmonton. Jim worked for the CNR and I held various office positions.

We had a young fellow by the name of John Stocker living with us who was articling with an accountant's firm. John was sent up to the Peace River country to do books. When he came back he said, "There's lots of money to be made farming". He caught Jim at the right time. He was fed up with working shifts and Jim felt he would



R.1 Debbie. R.2 Gerald, James, Myra and Howie.

also be his own boss. In 1963 we decided to homestead, so we picked a spot out on the homestead map and headed to Triangle. When we got there the trees were huge so we kept driving to McLennan. We stopped for gas and the garage attendant told us Whitemud had good land. As Sig Arndt was Councillor of the M.D., he directed us to the Arndt farm. Sig said to go east as there was good land there. We ended up homesteading a half section and buying a half section from Orland Jones. We homesteaded E½ of Section 13 and bought S½ of Section 14, Range 21, Township 74, West of the 5th Meridian.

We suitcase farmed for four years and were at Lloydminster for three and a half of the years so we made lots of miles. We traded our car off on a pickup and a WD9 tractor. Jim's brother drove the tractor from Lloydminster to Vegreville. Jim drove it to Edmonton and then in one day from Edmonton to Valleyview and was back home that night after catching a ride with a trucker. We hauled a disc, given to us by our brother-in-law, up in the back of the pickup. We had lots of strange looks at our outfit.

In January, 1967, Jim broke his leg while playing hockey. It was slow healing so we decided to quit our jobs and put in our residence on our homestead. The Jones land had a small house but no water, power or telephone. The dirt road ended at our driveway and when it rained it was impassable. Jim's leg finally healed in November and a week later he started working for the Northern Alberta Railway at McLennan, a thirty-five mile drive one way. Jim used to leave the car at the highway and walk home when it rained and he had to get to work. In 1967 we had a dugout built. We had been hauling water two miles. The telephones were installed in Whitemud and in 1968 we put the power into the house. We built a new home in 1972 and had the conveniences of town life.

Our three children Gerry, Howie and Debbie took their schooling in Valleyview. The boys were involved in hockey, swimming, curling and skiing, and Debbie was in figure skating, swimming and ringette. Jim coached hockey and played oldtimers hockey for Donnelly in later years. We curled around the Peace country. Jim and I used to golf in Edmonton. We started again and started the rest of the family golfing.

Our son Gerald was killed in a single vehicle accident on September 20th, 1979.

Howard went on to the University of Alberta and became a Chemical Engineer. He is presently working for Husky Oil at Lloydminster.

Our church affiliation is with the United Church of Canada. Jim is active in Alberta Wheat

Pool, being a delegate for the past eight years. Myra is Region 12 and District #22 Secretary for Uniform."

James Bliss Crone: n.28-05-1938
m.17-04-1958

Myra Joan Wilson: n.06-01-1938
CHILDREN:

1. Gerald Frederick: n.26-01-1961
d.20-09-1979

2. Howard James: n.01-12-1962

3. Debra Lynn: n.17-09-1964

1m.1980

Don Caharel:

a) Christopher Gerald: n.15-02-1981

b) Ashley Karen: n.04-07-1982

2m:Jim Hutchinson: n. 2m.27-12-1986

They live in Lloydminster.

* * *

Jim et moi étions amoureux à la haute école. Après notre douzième année, Jim s'entraîna pour devenir télégraphiste à la station C.N. de Lashburn et moi j'ai pris un cours de secrétaire. Après notre mariage nous avons demeuré à Edmonton. Jim travailla au C.N. et j'ai tenu un nombre varié de positions cléricales.

Une jeune homme, John Stocker, qui vivait avec nous et qui travaillait pour une firme de comptable fut envoyé à Peace River pour faire de la comptabilité. Quand il revint il nous dit qu'il y avait de l'argent à faire dans la culture. Cette nouvelle arrivait à un temps opportun car Jim était à bout de travailler à relai et qui envisageait la possibilité d'être son propre maître. En 1963 nous décidions de prendre un "homestead" et choissions un endroit sur la carte. Nous avons voyagé jusqu'au Triangle. Les arbres y étaient tellement gros que nous avons continué jusqu'à McLennan. L'intendant du garage où nous avons fait le plein nous a dit qu'à Whitemud il y avait de la bonne terre. Puisque Sig Arndt était conseiller de la municipalité il nous dirigea vers la ferme des Arndt. Sig nous dit de choisir un terrain à l'est. Finalement nous avons choisi de prendre une demi-section et d'acheter une demie-section de Orland Jones.

Pendant quatre ans, nous avons vécu à Lloydminster tout en cultivant ce terrain alors nous avons voyagé bien des milles. Nous avons échangé notre auto pour un camion et un tracteur WD9.

Nos enfants ont fréquenté l'école de Valleyview. Le 20 septembre 1979, notre fils Gerald fut tué dans un accident. Howard a fréquenté l'Université de l'Alberta et devint ingénieur en chimie. Il travaille pour Husky Oil à Lloydminster.

Debbie a épousé Don Cabarel en 1980 et divorça en 1984. Nous avons deux petits-enfants de ce mariage.

Nous appartenons à l'Eglise Unie du Canada. Jim est actif dans l'Alberta Wheat Pool étant délégué depuis huit ans. Myra est secrétaire de la région #2 et le district #22 d'Unifarm.

DANCAUSE, JOSEPH LEON & OUELLETTE, EVA

by Eva Dancause

Joe was born in St. Paul de Chester P.Q. in 1912. He was one of the 14 children of Mederic & Regina Dancause. They moved to Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan when Joe was only 6 years old. His father farmed there for many years. He passed away in 1926. The boys kept the farm going for a few more years, then the dry and grasshopper years came along and the family decided to try the Peace River Country. Joe and his brothers took homesteads 10 miles south of Donnelly.

I, Eva, was born in Saskatchewan in 1911. I was raised by different aunts as we had lost our mother. I had 5 brothers and 2 sisters. I went to different convent schools. The last was in Medicine Hat for 3 years, then I also came up to the Peace Country, as my family had moved up here (Donnelly) from Lac Pelletier, Saskatchewan. I stayed with my Dad and brothers on a farm 6 miles south of Donnelly.



R.1 Emile, Pauline, Jos and Eva, Jeanne, Laurette. R.2 Annette, Ted, Gérard, Henri, Louise.

I got to know the Dancause family as they had to pass by our front door to go to town and to church.

Joe liked to go dancing and was a caller for square dances. He was invited to all the weddings around and loved having a good time.

In 1934 we got married. It was hard times, but no one really worried about it. We rented a farm and lived there a few years. Then we moved to McLennan on my homestead. Joe worked for a milkman for a few years, then started peddling for Watkins Co. We stayed on this farm for 7 years, sold it and moved to Guy in 1947 to open a store.

We got a log house built by Mr. Gosselin and lived in it for 20 years, then we bought a new one. We built on to our little store as the years went by. New schools and a convent for the Sisters were also built in Guy. All my 9 children went to school in Guy. They were janitor of the schools for many years. They had to finish their schooling in Donnelly and Falher High School.

We had our store in Guy for 27 years and I had the post office for 17 years. Joe used to haul the mail from Falher to Ballater and Guy for many years then big van trucks brought it daily from Edmonton to Guy.

I was really busy in the store and post office and seeing to the house. We also sold gas at the pump. I really worked long hours but the people of Guy were all nice and sociable, Joe enjoyed talking to all the customers.

As the children finished school they went to Edmonton to take up careers and earn their living. Henry had a farm east of Guy for quite a few years, then had to sell it for health reasons.

We had 9 children and they are still all living.
Joseph Leon Dancause: n. 06-03-1912 m. 1934
Eva Ouellette: n. 19-11-1911

CHILDREN:

- 1) Jeanne: n. 09-05-1935 m. 27-04-1954
Albert Mercier
They live in Edson, Alberta. He was administrator of the hospital and Jeanne was dental assistant. They have 2 girls. They are now retired.
- 2) Henry: n. 10-02-1937, single and lives in Falher
- 3) Gerard: n. 11-06-1938 m. 28-11-1964
Cecile Bastien. They live in Valemount, B.C. and have 2 boys. Gerard works on road construction.
- 4) Theodore: n. 27-06-1939, single. Works in McMurray since many years for the oil companies.
- 5) Pauline: n. 21-02-1942 m. 17-09-1966
Paul Belzile
They live in Marie Reine, AB. They farm and also have a meat cutting shop. They have three children: Carol, Gilles and Mario.
- 6) Annette: n. 08-07-1944, single. Lives in Edmonton and is a nurse.

- 7) Emile: n. 16-04-1947, single. Lives in Mill-woods, Edmonton, AB and works at a contact lens office.
- 8) Laurette: n. 01-08-1951 m.06-10-1982 George Brademann
They live in Beaumont, AB. Both work in Edmonton. He is a city mechanic and she is a nurse. They have twin girls: Courtney and Lindsay.
- 9) Louise: n. 27-10-1952, single. She is a secretary and lives in Grande Prairie, AB.

In 1974 we celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary in Guy and in 1984 we had our 50th anniversary, starting with a mass at the hospital where Joe is a patient in Edmonton. Joseph had Alzheimer's disease for many years now and stays in the hospital. I sold my house in Guy and moved to Beaumont in 1983 and live in a Senior Citizen Apartment. I like it very much.

* * *

A l'âge de six ans Joseph déménagea avec ses parents à Gravelbourg. Après la mort de son père en 1926, il continua à cultiver avec ses frères mais avec l'arrivée des sauterelles et de la sécheresse il vint plutôt prendre du terrain à dix milles au sud de Donnelly.

Moi, Eva, je viens de la Saskatchewan. Ma mère étant décédée, je fus élevée par mes tantes. Ma famille déménagea à six milles au sud de Donnelly. J'ai connu les Dancause parce qu'ils passaient devant chez nous pour aller au village ou à l'église. Après notre mariage les temps ont été durs.

Nous avons loué une terre pour quelques années et ensuite nous sommes déménagés à McLennan sur ma ferme, et nous y sommes restés pendant sept ans. Après avoir vendu nous sommes allés à Guy ouvrir un magasin. Nous avons tenu le magasin pendant 27 ans et le bureau de poste pendant 17 ans.

DAOUST, EMERY & DION, RENA

by Thérèse Ray

My father and mother, Emery and Rena Daoust moved from Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan to Guy, Alberta. My father was born in Mattawa, Ontario and his family moved by wagon to Gravelbourg when he was very young. My mother was born in Dunseith, North Dakota, U.S.A. and came to Gravelbourg as a young girl to work as a maid. Emery and Rena were married in Gravelbourg and three children were born there: Eugénie, Théodore et Thérèse. After Dad's garage burnt, he went and looked at some land

around Falher and found some which suited him in Guy. We moved to Guy in the spring of 1929. We made the trip by car, a 1926 Chevrolet. Joe Bernier moved with us. We lived in Falher while the men built the cabin. The following year, a living room, three bedrooms and a walk-in closet were added. The barn was built of hewn logs. Some years later a chicken house and pigpen were built with new logs.



Emery & Rena Daoust.

Eugénie and Théodore went to the convent in Peace River. When Marcel and I became of school age, we attended Ballater School No. 1. We travelled with an old horse and buggy. In the summer Old Queen, our horse, would stop in the middle of the road, so Mr. Bentley, the school teacher, had to coax her to move. In the winter we travelled with the horse and the caboose, giving a ride to Martin Lonfat. The car was put up on blocks in the garage and stayed there until we moved to Makwa, Saskatchewan in the fall of 1938.

At one time Joe Bernier went to jail for boot-legging. He was innocent, but took the rap because the guilty man was married and had children while Joe was a bachelor.

Once when the back of my hands were covered with little warts, Mr. Bentley told me he would buy them if I would sell them. He gave me a safety pin for them and told me that many times a day I should look at my hands and say they were going away. One day there weren't anymore warts and to this day I've never had any. My father was able to make an earache or a toothache go away just by concentrating. If we said please or thank you it would not work. I imagine some of our friends will remember doing this.



Daoust Family: R.1 Thérese, Marcel. R.2 Theodore, Emery, Rena, Eugénie.

There were many ball games followed by dancing at our house. During the summer, after mass, we would go to the Smoky River, have a picnic, and swim. What fun we had!

I can remember going to Falher about once a year. What a big day that was! When my Dad went to Falher for groceries we waited for him to come home because in the box of groceries, the store keeper always put in a free bag of candy. Those were hard years and candies were not plentiful.

In the summer, nearly every Sunday we made ice cream. The boys took turns turning the ice cream freezer while Dad broke up the ice. I have never tasted ice cream that good. In the winter we made popcorn and taffy. We used to pick saskatoons and raspberries along the creek near De Baere's farm.

One winter we all had scarlet fever and Eugénie and Marcel were both very sick. Because we were quarantined Mr. Alexandre used to buy our groceries from the store and leave them on



Joe Bernier, un ami. / A friend.

the porch. That summer we all had the whooping cough.

One winter while going to visit Lionel Marier's family, we had to cross the Smoky River on ice by horse and sled. About halfway across we saw seven moose walking one behind the other.

In summer there was root picking done by hand. Mother prepared huge meals for the threshing crew during harvest and tended a big garden.

Marcel and I went to Ballater School No. 2 for two or three years and to the Convent in Falher for one year. Eugénie worked at Hamel's store. In 1938, we moved to Makwa where we had a restaurant for two years. Depression living was pretty hard. Dad, Théodore and Eugénie's husband, Laurent Gouin, went to Dryden, Ontario to work for the Dryden Paper Company. Then we all moved to Dryden in December of 1941.

Emery Daoust: n.24-01-1892 m.29-03-1921 d.22-03-1968

Mary Rena Dion

CHILDREN:

1. Eugénie: n.12-01-1922 m.30-12-1940
Laurent Gouin. They have one child, Cecile. Eugenie and Laurent now live in Windsor, Colorado, U.S.A.
2. Théodore: n.18-05-1923 m.01-09-1943
Iris Smith. They have five children: Marie, Georges, Charles, Janet and Marcel.
3. Thérèse: n.25-10-1927 m.27-01-1945
Kenneth Ray Jr. They have four children: Georgena, Robert, Gloria, and Richard.
4. Marcel: n.24-09-1929 m.22-09-1950
Norma Enquist. They have three children: Larry, Marsha, Brenda. Marcel was born in Guy, attended by a midwife Mrs. De Baere.

Mes parents, Emery et Rena, s'épousèrent à Gravelbourg et trois enfants sont nés là: Eugénie, Théodore et Thérèse. Après qu'un feu brûla le garage de mon père, il trouva du terrain à Guy. Nous déménâmes à Guy au printemps de 1929, en auto, une Chevrolet 1926. Joe Bernier déménagea avec nous. Nous restâmes à Falher pendant que les hommes bâtirent une maison en bois rond. Nous y aménâmes durant l'été.

Je me souviens que nous allions à Falher à peu près une fois par année. Quelle grande journée! Quand papa allait à Falher acheter les épiceries nous attendions impatiemment son retour car le propriétaire du magasin y mettait toujours un sac de bonbons gratuits. C'était les années difficiles et les bonbons étaient rares.

En 1938, nous déménâmes à Makwa où nous étions propriétaires d'un restaurant pendant deux ans. En décembre 1941, nous déménâmes à Dryden, Ontario.

DE BAERE, CHARLE & JANSSENESE, ALICE

by Elsa De Baere Dupuy

In 1925 there was a great deal of talk and propaganda in Belgium about the land of opportunity namely Canada.

It was at this time that Charles De Baere decided to immigrate to this great land of golden opportunities. In March of 1926, along with many others, he embarked on this venture.

While making the arrangements to come to Canada, he met Edmond Desauoy who also was planning to come to this great land, so they

became travelling companions and were to be neighbors for many years.

After crossing the Atlantic Ocean by ship (it then took 7 or 8 days) travelling by train across Canada to Alberta, they found work on a ranch near Cluny, Alberta.

Here they got their first experience of farm life and learned to drive eight horses hitched to a plow. This was quite a switch from carpentry which had been their trade in Belgium.

They worked there all summer, then in the fall they came North to Falher.

They met Mr. De Windt who owned a store in Falher. He gave them work that winter building a big shed. They both filed for homesteads in the spring 12 miles south of Falher.

During this time they were also making arrangements for their wives to come from Belgium and join them.

In February of 1927, Flavi Desauoy, my mother, Alice De Baere and myself (Elsa) then 4 1/2 years old came over on the "Montcalm" ship and docked at St-John N.B. then proceeded by train to Falher.

That first winter we stayed in a small house behind Mr. De Windt's store. Flavi and Mom got jobs at the Falher Hotel which was owned by Henri Martel.

In the spring we moved to an old log house on a farm near the homesteads. Here the men worked for farmers and started clearing some land on their homestead in their spare time. Each family built a log house on their homestead.

There were hardly any roads then, so they walked across the fields and bush through winding trails.

In the spring of 1928, Charles' brother, George and wife came from Chicago, U.S.A. and



Alice, Charles, Germaine.



Paulette, Elsa, Charles, Germaine, George.

together they built a house out of lumber and turned the first log house into a chicken coop.

Brother George and his wife didn't stay long however; this life was a little too primitive for them after living in Chicago.

In January 1929, a daughter, Germaine, was born to Alice and Charles.

They struggled along clearing land all by axe etc... Charles would do carpentry work in the winter time in exchange for a team of horses, a milk cow, etc...

They made big gardens, raised chickens, a few pigs and a couple of cows. This was their main source of food along with moose meat. Dad would also smoke deer meat, and it would taste like "back bacon".

As time went on Dad got more land and would haul the grain to town (12 miles) with a sleigh or wagon depending on the season.

During the depression years he sold oats for 8 cents a bushel. He would then buy a 100 lb. bag of flour, a few pounds of sugar, a pail of lard, cans of tobacco and a couple of other necessities. If they ran out of coffee before the next trip to town, they would roast barley flavored with chicory in the oven and then grind it in a coffee grinder that Mrs. Desauvoy had brought from Belgium and which she shared with us.

Another drawback these Belgian settlers had was that they could not speak a word of English and some couldn't even speak French so they had to learn to speak, to write, and to read the new languages.



R.1 Marianne, Elaine, Denise, Lucille. R.2 Marc, Luc, Gilles and George DeBaere.

In 1934 another daughter, Paulette, was born. Then in 1936 a son, George, was born.

When I (Elsa) and Germaine were 11 and 6 years old we had a pet pig and a calf. I would ride the calf and Germaine would ride the pig, Suzie, until Suzie got wise and would head for the

barbed wire fence and crawl under it so Germaine would have to fall off.

Mom would do the washing in a tub and scrub board as we had no washing machines then. One hot summer day she was scrubbing clothes outside with homemade lyesoap., when Suzie the pig came along and chewed the bar of soap. She was blowing bubbles for the rest of the day!

There was no school in the area then. When there were about 28 children of school age, the farmers got together and formed a school district called South Ballater. That winter they went down by the Smoky River, cut logs 30 and 40 feet long, hauled them up the hills with sleighs and horses and built a school on Ed. Desauvoy's land.

The children would walk from one to three and a half miles to attend school. The first teacher we had there was Robina Hamilton from Calgary. She taught all the grades from one to eight for five years, then went back to Calgary.

Charles had made all the desks, a large table, and some shelves for the school. The desks and table were painted grey.

The school was also used as a hall where they held dances, social gatherings etc... In the summer time the people would gather at the school yard to play ball on Sundays.

From then on farm conditions kept improving and getting more modern.

In 1947 Charles and Alice along with daughter Paulette and son George moved to Edmonton. They lived there for ten years, coming back to the farm only in the spring and fall.

In 1957 they built a new house on the farm and moved back. Paulette was married by then.

In 1959 they returned to Belgium for a visit. They remained on the farm until Alice (Mom) passed away in 1964. In 1965 Dad sold the farm to son George. Dad then moved to Kelowna where he re-married two years later and is still living there.

Charles DeBaere: n. 11-10-1899
m. 22-09-1922

Alice Janssenese: n. 05-09-1899
d. 13-08-1964

CHILDREN:

1- Elsa: n. 07-09-1923
m. 14-12-1942

Moïse Dupuy: (See Moïse Dupuy)

2- Germaine: n. 05-01-1929
m. 20-11-1948

Marcel Moulun: n. 28-03-1918

a) René: n. 25-07-1949
m. 17-06-1972

b) Léo: n. 15-11-1952
m. 21-07-1974

- 3- Paulette: n. 22-01-1934
m. 21-04-1954
Dennis Hooke
a) Brian: n. 22-08-1956
b) Brenda: n. 17-07-1958
c) Sandra: 07-02-1960
d) Linda: 18-07-1961
- 4- George: n. 11-04-1936
1m. 22-11-1958
a) Debbie
b) Darryl: n. 08-12-1961
2m. Lucille Desaulniers n. 24-01-1933
Lucille had 7 children by previous marriage:
Gilles, Luc, Marc, Denise, John, Elaine and
Marianne.

* * *

En 1925, en Belgique, on parlait beaucoup des occasions favorables qu'offrait le Canada. C'est à ce temps là que Charles DeBaere décida d'émigrer dans ce vaste pays. En mars 1926, il s'embarqua avec plusieurs autres personnes pour la grande aventure. C'est à ce temps-là qu'il rencontrait Edmond Desauvoy. Ils se lièrent d'amitié et devinrent compagnons de voyage, et plus tard ils furent voisins pendant de longues années.

Ayant traversé l'Atlantique en bateau et le Canada en train, ils trouvèrent du travail près de Cluny, AB. Ils apprirent vite à conduire huit chevaux attelés à une charrue.

A l'automne, ils décidèrent d'aller plus loin au Nord, et arrivèrent à Falher où ils rencontrèrent la famille De Windt, propriétaire d'un magasin. Ils travaillèrent tout l'hiver à construire un hangar pour les De Windt. De là ils prirent chacun un "homestead" à douze milles au sud de Falher. Aussi, ils prirent les dispositions nécessaires pour faire venir leurs femmes de la Belgique.

En février 1927, ma mère, Flavi Desauvoy, et moi-même (Elsa) âgée de quatre ans et demi débarquions du bateau Montcalm, au port de St-John au Nouveau-Brunswick, et nous partîmes pour Falher par rail.

Nous passâmes ce premier hiver dans une petite maison derrière le magasin DeWindt. Flavi et ma mère trouvèrent du travail à l'hôtel, propriété de Henri Martel.

Au printemps, nous aménagions dans une vieille cabane de bois rond sur une ferme près de nos "homestead". Là, les hommes travaillaient pour les fermiers et à leurs moments libres ils défrichaient leurs terres. Chacun construisit une maison en bois rond sur son propre "homestead".

Il y avait très peu de chemins, alors on marchait à travers champs et buissons, dans des sentiers boiteux. Au printemps 1928, le frère de Charles, Georges, et son épouse vinrent de Chicago. Ensemble ils contruisirent une bonne maison et transformèrent première cabane en poulailler. Georges et sa femme ne tardèrent pas à retourner chez-eux, la vie ici était un peu trop rude pour eux.

En janvier 1929, Alice et Charles devinrent les parents d'une fille, Germaine.

Avec les années, mon père acquit plus de terrain et charroyait son grain au village à douze milles – soit en voiture ou en traîneau.

Lors de la crise économique, mon père vendit de l'avoine pour 0,08 \$ le minot. Ensuite, il acheta de la farine, du sucre, du lard, du tabac, etc... Si l'on venait à manquer de café, on faisait rôtir de l'orge mêlée de chicorée au fourneau et ensuite le tout était moulu dans le petit moulin à café que Mme Desauvoy avait apporté de la Belgique.

Ces Belges avaient un autre handicap; C'est qu'ils ne parlaient pas l'anglais, et même certains d'entre eux ne pouvaient pas parler français non plus. Alors, ils ont appris à le parler, le lire et l'écrire.

En 1934, une autre fille, Paulette, naquit, et en 1936, Georges fit sur apparition dans le monde.

A la ferme, la situation s'améliorait graduellement, devenant plus moderne.

En 1947, Charles et Alice avec leur fille Paulette et leur fils Georges déménagèrent à Edmonton où, ils vécurent pendant dix ans, ne revenant à la ferme, qu'au printemps et à l'automne.

En 1957, ils construisirent une nouvelle maison à la ferme et revenaient pour y vivre. Paulette s'était mariée, entre-temps.

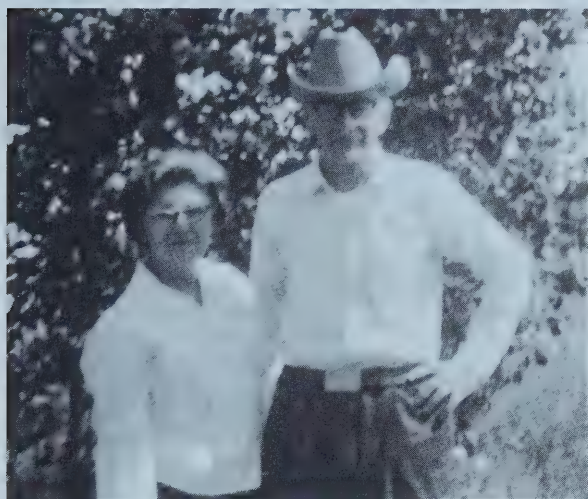
En 1959, ils se rendirent en visite en Belgique. Ils demeurèrent sur la ferme jusqu'à la mort de ma mère (Alice), en 1964. En 1965 mon père vendit la ferme à son fils Georges. Il s'en alla vivre à Kelowna où il vit encore. Deux ans après son arrivée, il se remaria.

DECHIEF, ALBERT & REY, EUGENIE

par Eugenie Dechief

Albert Dechief was born in Lampman, Saskatchewan on July 30, 1906, son of Jules Dechief and Louise Humbert. He attended school at the convent in Forget, Saskatchewan. After the dust bowl years there, his parents decided to relocate in Alberta. In 1928, he moved with his family to Girouxville and farmed there until 1946.

I came to Falher with my parents Leon Rey and Marie Anne Etchecopar and my sister Marie in 1914. My parents moved there from Nevada shortly after they married. I was born "en route", in Edmonton on April 10. Three weeks later, my mother, her sister Marie Peyre, my own sister Marie and I made the trek by train, steamer and wagon to Falher, where my father had, by now, filed on a homestead. Our first home was a tent but my enterprising father soon had a house for us. I grew up there and attended convent and school at Falher.



Eugénie and Albert Dechief.

After Albert and I were married, on June 14 1938, we farmed in Girouxville and Falher. We came to live in Guy in 1951 when we bought the E½ 30-76-21-W5 from Edouard Cloutier. During the first few years, we worked at opening the land. Albert spent the winters in bush camps; sometimes, the whole family went along. We always had some cattle, hogs, chickens and a large garden. Albert liked horses and knew how to handle and care for them. Our neighbors and acquaintances knew this and often came to him for help. We always had a horse around even after we didn't need them to work anymore.

The children went to school here at Ballater North and Alexandre, and later the girls went to Langlois. After completing his grade 12 in Girouxville since there was no high school here at the time, Edmond took a mechanic course in Calgary. He then farmed with his Dad along with working as a mechanic for Robideau Sand and Gravel in Valleyview for many years.

In 1966, we bought the S½ 13-76-21-W5 from Leopold Lafleur. Doris was the only one of the children still at home; she finished her high



René, Doris, Edmond, Janine, Albert, Eugénie, Claire.

school in Donnelly. Albert and I were living here at the time of his death, December 3, 1983, I continue to live here. Edmond has taken over the family farm. He and Rene have increased their operation and farm together.

Albert Dechief: n. 30-07-1906 m. 14-06-1938 d. 03-12-1983

Eugenie Rey: n. 10-04-1914

CHILDREN:

- 1) Edmond: n. 17-12-1939
Gabrielle (Blanchet) Charest who has three children from a previous marriage.
 - a) Suzanne: n. 16-04-1963
 - b) Paul: n. 10-04-1965
 - c) Raymond: n. 12-05-1968
- 2) Rene: n. 13-07-1941 m. 25-10-1968
Francoise Gagne
 - a) Derrick: n. 31-07-1969
 - b) Joanne: n. 25-04-1972
 - c) Ryan: n. 14-04-1977
- 3) Claire: n. 27-06-1944 m. 02-08-1965
Richard Gagnon
 - a) Kenneth: n. 27-02-1969
 - b) Ronald: n. 08-01-1971
 - c) Rachael: n. 29-10-1974
- 4) Janine: n. 06-11-1946 m. 23-06-1967
Antonio Laliberte
 - a) Tina: n. 27-09-1968
 - b) Tammy: n. 23-08-1970
 - c) Dean: n. 31-10-1974
- 5) Doris: n. 31-05-1950 m. 05-12-1969
Lawrence Rice
 - a) Stacey: n. 06-02-1974

* * *

*Albert est arrivé à Girouxville en 1928 et
Eugénie est arrivée à Falher en 1914 par train,*

bateau et wagon. Après notre mariage nous avons cultivé à Girouxville et Falher mais en 1951 nous sommes déménagés à Guy. Nous avons toujours eu du bétail, porc, poulets et un grand jardin. Albert aimait particulièrement les chevaux qu'il savait aussi soigner. Les connaissances et les voisins le savaient bien aussi.

Les enfants ont fréquenté les écoles de Ballater North et d'Alexandre et ensuite celle de Guy. Edmond a pris un cours de mécanicien à Calgary et ensuite aida son père tout en travaillant pour Robideau Sand & Gravel à Valleyview. Doris a fini sa haute école à Donnelly. Edmond a maintenant pris la ferme à charge et avec René a augmenté l'entreprise.

DECHIEF, RENE & GAGNE, FRANCOISE

by Françoise Dechief

Rene came to live in Ballater when he was ten years old. There was always plenty of work for everyone in those days – doing everything by hand. He learned to farm early helping his big brother Edmond. He attended the country schools with his brother and sisters, harnessing the horse to the buggy or sleigh every morning and evening.

Of course there was also time for fun even at school. One of the teachers, Mr. Porter, was a great baseball fan. Come spring, you could always talk him into a game against Benoit School. After practising for a while, Mr. Porter would load them all (that's right – the whole school) in his 1952 Chevy and off they were. Of course they always lost against those big guys, but what fun they all had, Mr. Porter most of all!

When I was small, I fared a lot better than my brothers and sisters as far as work was concerned because most of it got done before getting to me. One job my sister and I had to do was to pile the firewood as a big brother (usually Maurice) finished splitting it. He kept an eye on us and once in a while he would come and put his shoulder to the row of corded wood to straighten it out before it came crashing down. I could never believe that so much wood could get used up so fast!

When I first started school, we walked the half mile to the old schoolhouse, where Sister Therese welcomed us. Before long, we moved to a new school. When I got to Junior High, the school was frequented by students of grade one to grade twelve, and a long line of busses was waiting along the sidewalk at the end of the day. Our children Derrick and Joanne started school in Guy too and were transferred to Falher when the school closed down.

We were married October 25, 1968 and lived



R.1 Françoise, Ryan. R.2 Joanne, Derrick, René.

in Stettler for the first year when Rene worked on the power lines. Shortly after Derrick was born, we moved back to Guy where Rene farmed and raised hogs with his Dad. We were living in Mom and Dad Dechief's yard in a trailer when Joanne was born. We later bought our own land from Mr. Allan Merchant and moved to N.W. 5-76-21-W5 in 1976. Ryan was born here.

Rene and his brother Edmond farm together. Derrick lends a big hand when he is not in school. There are many chores for the others also. It is a busy life and we enjoy it.

Rene Dechief: n. 13-07-1941

m. 25-10-1968

Francoise Gagne: n. 09-04-1947

Children:

1) Derrick: n. 31-07-1969

2) Joanne: n. 25-04-1972

3) Ryan: n. 14-04-1977

* * *

C'est tout jeune que René apprit le métier de fermier en aidant son frère Edmond. Il a fréquenté les petites écoles où le professeur donnait le ton même au baseball.

Quand j'étais petite, ma vie fut bien plus douce que pour les plus vieux de la famille. Une tâche que je partageais avec Bibiane était de corder le bois de chauffage. Nous marchions à la petite école et ensuite en autobus à l'école neuve.

Nous nous sommes mariés le 25 octobre 1968 et sommes demeurés un an à Stettler, quand René travaillait sur les lignes d'électricité. Nous sommes revenus à Guy, René est redevenu fermier et fit l'élevage de porc avec son père. Il partage maintenant les travaux de la ferme avec son frère Edmond.

DELAGE, ALBERT & DROUIN, YVONNE

par Mariette Delage Guay

Albert Délage est né le 22 juin 1909 à St-Narcisse, Cté Lotbinière, P.Q. Il était le dernier d'une famille de 19 enfants. Sa mère est morte alors qu'il n'avait que quinze ans. Il partit avec son frère Alfred pour quelques temps, dans les chantiers d'Abitibi et faisait aussi la chasse. Plus tard il travaillait comme postillon dans le village de St-Narcisse. Le plus souvent cette route du courrier était parcourue avec des chiens. C'était plus facile qu'avec les chevaux. Un jour que M. Délage faisait sa tournée de postillon il s'arrêta pour se reposer (lui et ses chiens) chez M. Joseph Drouin. C'est là qu'il rencontra sa femme, Yvonne Drouin qui est née à Ste. Marguerite, village voisin de St-Narcisse, le 27 avril 1917. Ils se sont mariés le 3 juillet

1935. Ils achetèrent une ferme à St-Narcisse où ils vécurent huit ans avec leur quatre enfants, Mariette, Yolande, Louisa et Yvon. En 1943 ils décidèrent de déménager dans l'ouest où les parents de Mme. Délage étaient déjà rendus. Leur rêve était de devenir fermiers.

Ils vendent tout ce qu'ils ont, puis ils partent en train de Québec. Le voyage a prit cinq jours. C'était long! Mme. Délage avait deux bébés. Finalement ils sont arrivés à Donnelly, vers cinq heures du matin, une journée d'octobre. Il n'y avait personne pour les recevoir à la gare, alors M. Délage fit des recherches pour trouver quelqu'un pour les conduire chez leur parenté. Ils espèrent que le français se parle ici car ils avaient eu de la difficulté à se faire comprendre pendant leur trajet sur le train. Ce fut M. Antonio Perras, très gentil, et parlant français qui, après le déjeuner, alla les conduire chez grand-père Drouin. La route était très cahoteuse et même des arbres étaient tombés ici et là, alors il fallait s'arrêter pour les enlever. Malgré tout, cette aventure a eu une fin heureuse; la réunion d'une belle famille.

Ils prennent un "homestead" numéro S1/2-17-75-20-W5 mais durant l'hiver ils demeurent chez Grand-père. Puis M. Délage bâtit une maison de bois rond qui contenait deux chambres et une cuisine. Une chambre pour les parents et l'autre avec deux lits pour les enfants. Finalement c'est devenu la chambre pour six enfants, car Claude et Roger sont nés à Guy. Cette maison les rapprochait de l'école Whiteland qui était encore à deux milles et demi. Le bureau de poste Forest View était un demi-mille plus loin et les enfants allaient parfois ramasser le courrier après la classe; alors ça faisait un bon exercice car ils marchaient presque toujours. Des fois en hiver ils marchaient chez Mme. Mary Brulotte, et finissaient le trajet en "caboose" avec les chevaux. Aux printemps ils voyageaient soit en "buggy" ou à cheval ou même avec le petit tracteur Ford.

M. Délage défrichait, cassait et travaillait son terrain avec les chevaux et plus tard le tracteur Ford. L'hiver, il le passait à travailler dans les chantiers des alentours, même le chantier Tardif, qui était à Harmon Valley. Il faisait ce trajet en tracteur. Qu'il a dû avoir froid! Il fallait qu'il s'arrête parfois pour faire un feu pour se chauffer. Quand il ne travaillait pas, il chassait toujours et trappait aussi, des belettes etc. pour la vente de fourrure. Quelle méchante odeur parfois pour nous les enfants, quand il dépouillait ces bêtes-là. Quelle différente vie aujourd'hui! La chasse et la trappe, c'est un



R.1 Yvonne, Albert, Roger. R.2 Mariette, Yolande, Louisa, Yvon, Claude.

“bobby” pour la plupart, non pas une nécessité comme autrefois.

Quand les enfants étaient presque tous grandis et partis, Albert et Yvonne ont accueilli une petite fille de cinq mois du Bien-être Social et ont chéri cette petite comme leur propre enfant. Son nom est Beverly Moostoos.

M. Délâge souffrait du coeur depuis plusieurs années et est décédé le 23-09-1980. Mme Délâge demeure toujours dans sa petite maison sur la ferme originale.

Albert Délâge: n.22-06-1909 m.03-07-1935 d.23-03-1980

Yvonne Drouin: n. 27-04-1917

ENFANTS:

1) *Mariette: n. 17-06-1936 m. 16-06-1955*

Roger Guay: n. 17-06-1931

2) *Yolande: n. 22-07-1937 m. 16-06-1955 d. 04-06-1976*

Alfred Servant: n. 27-09-1932

(voir Servant, Alfred)

3) *Louisa: n. 20-09-1941 m. 16-02-1959*

Robert Despins: n. 18-11-1932

(voir Despins, Robert)

4) *Yvon: n. 12-09-1942 m. 03-09-1962 d. 20-02-1971*

Mireille Parker: n. 14-06-1944

a) *Diane: n. 07-02-1963 m. 02-01-1986*

Bruce Fowler: n. 18-05-1965

i) *Shawn: n. 03-04-1982*

b) *René: n. 26-01-1964*

c) *Line: n. 13-08-1970*

2m *Mireille à Guy Paradis: m. 29-04-1972*

d) *Mark Paradis: n. 13-06-1974*

5) *Claude: n. 14-04-1945 m. 12-06-1965*

Claire Marcoux: n. 14-01-1947

(Voir Délâge, Claude)

6) *Roger: n. 19-01-1953*

7) *Beverly Moostoos: n. 14-10-1961 (parrainée)*

* * *

Albert and Yvonne decided to come West with their four children in 1943. Mrs. Délâge's parents were already in Guy and their dream was to become farmers. It took five days by train. Mrs. Délâge had two babies to tend to. They finally arrived in Donnelly at five in the morning one October day. There was no one to meet them at the train so Mr. Délâge went to seek out someone who would take them to Guy. It was Mr. Antonio Perras who gracefully took them after breakfast to Grandpa Drouin. The road was rough and occasionally a tree had fallen across the road and had to be pushed aside. Eventually, this adventure had a good ending; the reunion of a family.

They took a homestead but stayed at Grandpa's for the winter. Then Mr. Délâge built a log cabin containing two rooms and a kitchen. One room for the parents and one room with two beds for the children. It soon became one room for six as Claude and Roger were born in Guy. This house was closer to Whiteland School but it was still a two and one half miles distance. The Forest View Post Office was a half mile further and the children would sometimes pick up the mail after school; Sometimes in winter they'd walk to Mary Brulotte's place and finish the trek with horse and caboose. In the spring they'd travel by buggy or on horseback or with the small Ford tractor.

Mr. Délâge opened land and worked it with horses and later on with the Ford tractor. Winters were spent in lumber camps; as far as the Tardif camp at Harmon Valley. He'd travel there by tractor. How cold it must have been! Sometimes he had to stop and make a fire to warm himself. When not working he would hunt and trap to sell furs. What an odor when he would skin these animals.

Once all the children were grown and gone, Albert and Yvonne took in five-month old girl from Social Services and cherished her as their own.

Mr. Délâge was suffering from a heart condition and died on 23-09-1980. Mrs. Délâge still lives in her small house on the original farm.

DELAGE, CLAUDE & MARCOUX, CLAIRE

by Claire

Claude, son of Albert and Yvonne Drouin was born on April 14, 1945 at the Sacred Heart Hospital in McLennan. On June 12, 1965, he married Claire Marcoux of McLennan.

Claude has bought the family farm and is presently farming. Claire worked many years at the Langlois School as secretary and staff aid; she now helps on the farm. We both enjoy staying in Guy. Guy is a nice community to live in as people work well together in various activities.

Claude: n.14-04-1945

m.12-06-1965

Claire: n.14-01-1947

CHILDREN:

1. *Claudette: n.11-01-1968*

She is in her 2nd year at the University of Alberta, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

2. *Suzanne: n.09-03-1973*

She is now attending grade 8 at Routhier School in Falher.

* * *



Claudette, Suzanne, Claire, Claude.

Claude a acheté la ferme familiale qu'il cultive présentement. Claire a travaillé bien des années à l'école Langlois comme secrétaire et aide; elle aide à la ferme maintenant. Tous les deux nous jouissons de vivre à Guy. C'est une belle communauté où tous travaillent ensemble dans une variété d'activités.

DEMERS, BENJAMIN

by Françoise Dechief

De Charny, Québec, Ben est venu dans l'Ouest en 1928 et prit un "homestead". Il défri-cha à la main. Il jouissait d'une bonne partie de hockey étant lui-même bon joueur. Il avait une bonne instruction. Ben était un célibataire affable et fut adopté par les familles environnantes. A l'été 1939 il retourna à Charny pour



Ben Demers.

visiter sa famille. Il revint pour vendre son terrain à M. Paul Lacourse et retourna au Québec pour rester et ensuite se marier.

* * *

Ben, as he was well known, was born in Charny, Que., and came west in 1928. he filed on NE ¼-16-76-21-W5. His land was all cleared by hand. He was a good hockey player and had a good education. He often spoke about the Quebec bridge that collapsed into the St-Lawrence River. Ben was single and was adopted by all the surrounding families. Another joyful bachelor, loved by all. In the summer of 1939, he returned to Charny, to visit his family for the first time since his arrival here. He came back long enough to sell his land to Mr. Paul Lacourse and returned to Quebec to stay and later on, married.

DESFOSSÉS, EDGAR & MORIN, BEATRICE

Roger raconte

Edgar, fils d'Arthur et de Hélène Côté est né à l'Avenir, P.Q. le 2 juillet 1903.

Son frère, Roméo, qui vivait au Dakota Sud, E.U., vint visiter sa famille au Québec en 1924. Edgar se laisse attirer par l'Ouest et décide à l'âge de vingt et un ans de faire le voyage de retour avec Roméo et sa famille.

Il passe quelque temps aux Etats Unis mais quand son frère déménage à Wainwright, Edgar part avec eux. A l'automne 1927-28 il retourne passer l'hiver à l'Avenir, P.Q. Il se rend dans la région de Falher en 1928, avec un ami, Gérard Proulx. Il prend du terrain à Falher et épouse une jeune fille de la région. Le 27 novembre 1933, Edgar épouse Béatrice Morin, fille de Jean-Baptiste et de Délia Comeau, dans l'église de Falher.

Le 2 janvier 1948 Edgar prend S½ 16-74-22-W5 dans la région de Whitemud Creek. Au printemps un "shack" est bâti et avec l'aide d'Olivier Beaulieu vingt acres sont défrichés et cassés la première année.

Heureusement qu'en 1949 Edgar fit l'acquisition d'un tracteur John Deere et alors ça devient beaucoup plus facile. Edgar et Béatrice passent les été à Whitemud à défricher et retournent en hiver à leur maison confortable à Falher. Quand Roger, leur fils unique, est assez âgé il aide ses parents à défricher et à cultiver.

Edgar est décédé le 10 février 1973.

Béatrice habite encore dans sa maison à Falher.

Edgar Desfossés: n.02-07-1903 m.27-11-1933 d.10-02-1973

Béatrice Morin: n.09-09-1914



Béatrice & Edgar Desfossés.

ENFANT;

1- Roger: n.28-05-1935 m.26-10-1957
Gisèle Aubin (Voir Desfossés, Roger)

* * *

Edgar, son of Arthur and Helene Côté was born in l'Avenir, P.Q. on July 2, 1903. He followed his brother Romeo to South Dakota in 1924. Later on both brothers moved to Wainwright, AB., and Edgar came to the Falher region in 1928 with a friend, Gerard Proulx.

He married Beatrice Morin, daughter of Jean-Baptiste and Delia Comeau on November 27, 1933.

On January 2, 1948 Edgar filed on S $\frac{1}{2}$ 16-74-W5th in Whitemud Creek. He built a shack and with the help of Olivier Beaulieu opened twenty acres in 1949 with his John Deere tractor.

Edgar and Beatrice spent their summers in Whitemud and lived in their home in Falher in the winter.

Edgar died on February 10, 1973. Beatrice still lives in her home in Falher.

DESFOSSÉS, ROGER & AUBIN, GISELE

Raconté à Cécile Aubin

Roger, fils unique d'Edgar et de Béatrice Morin s'intéresse très jeune à la ferme. A douze ans, gros et grand pour son âge, il accompagne son père à Whitemud Creek aidant au défrichage.

Il conduit le tracteur "John Deere" pour faire le labour même s'il n'est pas assez fort pour le démarrer lui-même. Roger se rappelle que son père organisait les machines et que lui, Roger, entreprenait une bonne journée de travail. Il se souvient d'avoir fait le labour sur le terrain d'Alphonse Courchesne, terrain où était située l'église St-Marcel.

A dix-huit ans, en 1953, il a pris le SE 9-74-22-W5 et SW 10-74-22-W5. Heureusement qu'il y avait de bonnes machines pour défricher à ce temps; Bob Hauser et les frères Lamarche avec un Cat D 7 ont complètement ouvert ces deux terres.



R.1 Gisèle, Suzanne. R.2 Mary, Daniel, Roger, Denis Desfossés.

En 1957, le 26 octobre, Roger unit sa destinée à une fille de pionnier qui aime aussi la terre. Il épouse Gisèle Aubin, fille de Isidore et Lucienne Laflamme. Alors à deux on est plus brave! Roger achète le terrain de Billy Gardner E $\frac{1}{2}$ -10-74-22-W5 au printemps 1967.

Après le décès de son père en 1973 il acquiert le terrain de sa mère et en 1980 celui d'Omer Laflamme N $\frac{1}{2}$ -34-74-22-W5.

Pendant toutes ces années Roger travaille à la construction. Parfois Gisèle doit gérer les travaux de la ferme car Roger est employé ailleurs; Gisèle est un partenaire dans le plein sens du mot. Même avec les bas prix du grain en 1987, ils ne se découragent pas.

Roger Desfossés; n.28-05-1935 m.26-10-1957
Gisèle Aubin; n.28-09-1934

ENFANTS:

1. Daniel; n.26-10-1958 m.14-08-1982
Mary Stosky
 - a) Alana; n.23-03-1986
2. Suzanne; n.27-04-1961
3. Denis; n.02-02-1967

Roger, only child of Edgar and Beatrice Morin started helping his dad on the John Deere tractor at the age of twelve. He remembers doing the breaking on Alphonse Courchesne's land where St. Marcel Church was built in Whitemud Creek.

At eighteen, in 1953, he filed on SE¹/₄-9-74-22-W5th and SW-10-74-22-W5th, land which was completely cleared by Bob Hauser and Lamarche Brothers.

In 1957, he married Gisele Aubin, daughter of Isidore and Lucienne Laflamme. He then bought Billy Gardner's land E¹/₂-10-74-22-W5th in 1967. After his father's death, in 1973, he bought the land from his mother and in April 1980, he bought Omer Laflamme's N¹/₂-34-74-22-W5th.

During all these years, Roger worked in construction. Many times Gisele had to see that the farm work got done. They are true partners in this farming business.

DESHARNAIS, FELIX & DROUIN, ANNETTE

par Gertrude Desbarnais

Félix Desbarnais, fils de Ferdinand Desbarnais et de Zoé Beaubien, est né le 2 avril 1908 à Ste-Sophie de Lévrard, Nicolet, P.Q. d'une famille de douze enfants. En 1926 il s'est rendu à McCord, Saskatchewan, où il s'est installé sur un terrain. En 1929, c'est la sécheresse et la poudrerie, c'est impossible de cultiver; personne ne voulait acheter son terrain. Il est donc venu à Edmonton en 1930 pour faire application au gouvernement pour du terrain en Alberta. Il fallait qu'il soit résident trois ans en Alberta avant de pouvoir obtenir du terrain. En 1931, il laissa son terrain en Saskatchewan, ainsi que ses machines enterrées dans la poussière. Il est retourné au Québec avec la famille Joseph Drouin et deux de ses frères.



Annette Desbarnais avec bébé Jacques, L'abbé Paul Gagnon, Père M.L. Parent, Félix, Fernand, Irène en avant du bicycle; au baptême du bébé.

En arrivant au Québec, Félix s'acheta un camion commercial. Il charroyait de la crème, des fruits et des légumes et a continué cette occupation pour neuf ans. Le 30 août 1936 il épousait Annette Drouin à St-Narcisse, Dorchester, P.Q., fille de Joseph Drouin et de Evelina Lacasse.

En 1940, Félix et Annette ont décidé de venir dans l'ouest à la Rivière La Paix. Ils avaient deux enfants: Irène et Fernand; celui-ci n'avait que quarante jours. Son frère Maurice, sa femme Antoinette, soeur d'Annette, et leurs deux enfants sont venus avec eux. En arrivant dans la région de Rivière La Paix ils se sont installés sur des terrains au sud de Guy. Ils se sont bâti un camp de bois rond. Il fallait quérir l'eau en traîneau, de la rivière "Smoky". Félix a commencé à ouvrir son terrain à la hache. L'hiver il allait travailler dans les chantiers. Annette prenait soin des animaux. En 1949, ils ont bâti leur première maison, se sont acheté un tracteur et de l'équipement. En 1952 leur demi-



Gilles, Jacques, Fernand, Annette, Denis, Félix and Irène Desbarnais.

section était toute ouverte. Félix et Annette sont restés sur la ferme jusqu'en 1964, où ils ont déménagé à Falher pour deux ans. Après, ils ont déménagé à Edmonton pour y demeurer jusqu'en 1981. Depuis ce temps ils ont vendu leur maison à Edmonton à leur garçon Denis et ils sont à la Villa Beauséjour à Falher où ils demeurent encore aujourd'hui.

Félix Desbarnais: n. 02-04-1908 m. 30-08-1936

Annette Drouin: n. 31-12-1912

ENFANTS:

1- Irène: n. 09-12-1938 à St-Pierre de Becquets m. 29-08-1957

Hector Lemire: n.

Ils ont trois enfants: Michel, André et Norman.

2- *Fernand: n. 20-05-1940 à St-Pierre de Becquets d. 29-01-1973*

3- *Jacques: n. 11-04-1941*

4- *Gilles: n. 14-08-1943 m. 17-06-1967*

Gertrude Côté: n. 27-06-1949

(voir Desharnais, Gilles)

5- *Denis: n. 15-12-1952 m. 05-07-1975*

Christine Markus

a) *Rachelle: n. 25-06-1980*

b) *Jacqueline: n. 17-02-1983*

* * *

In 1926, Félix Desharnais came to McCord, Saskatchewan where he settled down. In 1929, the drought set in. It was impossible to farm or to sell the land. Consequently he came to Edmonton in 1930 to file application for land in Alberta. One had to be a resident for three years in order to obtain land. In 1931 he left his land in Saskatchewan and his machinery covered with dust and returned to Quebec with the Joseph Drouin family and two of his brothers.

Upon his return to Quebec, Félix bought a commercial truck to haul cream, fruits and vegetables. He kept this occupation for nine years. He married Annette Drouin and in 1940 the couple decided to come out west in the Peace River region. They had two children. His brother, Maurice, and his wife with their two children also came with them. They settled south of Guy. They built a log camp. One had to carry water from the Smoky River. Félix started opening his land with an ax.

He would work in lumber camps in winter while Annette tended the livestock.

In 1949 they built their first home, bought a tractor and equipment. In 1952 their half-section was cleared. Félix and Annette stayed on the farm until 1964 when they sold to their son, Gilles. In 1967 they moved to Falher for two years then on to Edmonton until 1981. At this time they sold their house to their son, Denis and came to stay at the Villa Beauséjour in Falher where they are presently.

DESHARNAIS, GILLES & COTE, GERTRUDE

by Gertrude

Gilles Desharnais started school at the River Valley School which was situated on the corner of their land. When it closed down he went to Whiteland school till the Guy School opened where he attended up to grade 8. He left school



R.1 Norman, Gertrude. R.2 Gilbert, Gilles, Donald.

to go farming with his dad and to work in lumber camps during the wintertime. In 1964, he bought the farm from his dad and took some homestead land on the south side of the Smoky River.

On June 17, 1967 he married Gertrude Côté, daughter of Paul Emile Côté and Ida Guindon of Falher; Gertrude attended Routhier school in Falher. The young couple made their home in the house his father, Mr. Felix Desharnais, built in 1949. They raised three boys, Gilbert, Donald and Norman. More homestead land was acquired and opened as the years went by. In 1979 they built their new home and are presently farming eleven quarters as a family unit.

Gilles Desharnais: n. 14-08-1943

m. 17-06-1967

Gertrude Côté: n. 27-06-1949

CHILDREN:

1- Gilbert: n. 07-03-1968

2- Donald: n. 07-09-1970

3- Norman: n. 12-01-1975

* * *

Gilles commença l'école à River Valley. Ensuite, il fréquenta l'école de Whiteland jusqu'à ce que l'école de Guy ouvre ses portes et il fréquenta celle-ci jusqu'à la huitième année. Il laissa l'école pour aider son père à cultiver et

pour travailler dans les chantiers à l'hiver. En 1964 il acheta la ferme de son père et prit d'autres terrains au sud de la rivière Smoky.

Gertrude fréquenta l'école de Falher.

Après leur mariage, le jeune couple occupa la maison que M. Félix Desharnais avait bâtie en 1949. Ils ont élevé trois garçons. Plus de terrain fut acquis et ouvert au cours des années. En 1979 ils bâtirent une nouvelle maison et cultivent présentement onze quarts.

DESHARNAIS, MAURICE & DROUIN, ANTOINETTE

par Jeannine Desharnais

Maurice, le plus jeune de la famille de Ferdinand Desharnais et de Zoé Desbène, est né le 25 juin 1911 à Ste-Sophie de Levrard, Cté Lotbinière, P.Q. Antoinette, troisième enfant de Joseph et Evelina Lacasse, est née le 17 avril 1915 à Ste-Marguerite, Cté Dorchester. A onze ans, Antoinette eut sa première expérience de l'aventure dans l'ouest lorsque ses parents et famille s'installèrent en 1926 à Mankota, au sud de la Saskatchewan. Six ans plus tard, à cause de sévère sécheresse, la famille est retournée au Québec.



Françoise, Antoinette, Gaetane, Maurice Desharnais, Pierrette & Roland.

Après quelques rencontres Maurice et Antoinette se sont mariés le 16 juin 1936 à St-Narcisse, Cté Lotbinière et prirent logis au lieu paternelle Desharnais. Ils y demeurèrent 4 années durant lesquelles Françoise et Pierrette sont nées. L'avenir n'était pas très prometteur sur leur petit domaine de terre blanche et sableuse, clôturé par rangées de grosses roches entassées. Et un certain prêtre, l'abbé St-Pierre, les encouragea à aller coloniser l'ouest, là où la

terre est fertile. Donc, ils vendent ce qu'ils possèdent et s'unissant à la famille d'Anette et Félix Desharnais, ils montent dans le camion de Félix et risquent l'inconnu. Le voyage d'une semaine est difficile pour les reins, surtout pour les dames, car leur siège consiste en des matelas placés au fond de la boîte du camion!

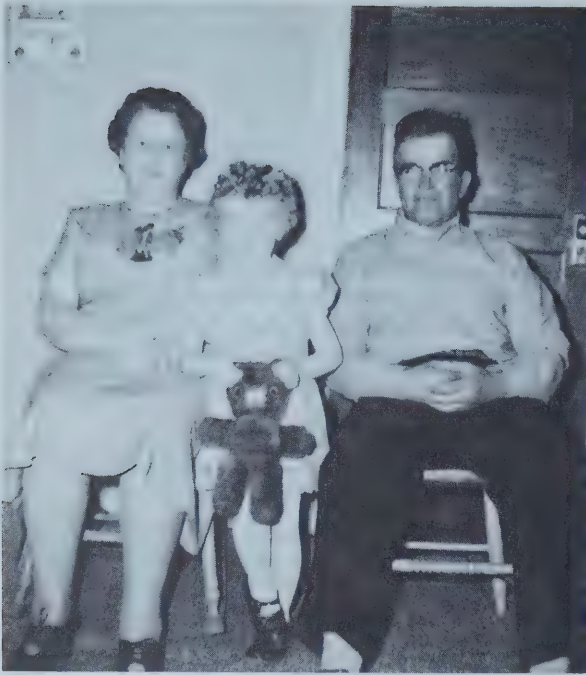
Le groupe est arrivé à Guy à la fin de juin, 1940. Quelle surprise et quel désappointement! Ils imaginent le temps, le travail et les appareils nécessaires avant que la terre soit productrice. Et cette région est tellement éloignée des centres d'achats principaux, soit Falher, McLennan ou Peace River. Mais il faut rester. Père Gagnon de Guy donne abri au groupe Desharnais à l'arrière de l'église qui est le presbytère pendant que Maurice et Félix acquièrent leur terrain et construisent leur résidence.

Donc, après l'acquisition d'une demie-section, N ½ 75-20-5, d'une paire de chevaux et d'une pelle de creusage, Maurice débute son établissement. Un réservoir est creusé, et à la hache, il entasse le bois rond nécessaire pour la construction de sa première demeure. C'est un "shack de bois" divisé en une salle générale et une chambre à coucher. Au printemps de 1941, la famille prend résidence dans leur "shack" et débute le défrichage du terrain; c'est la colonisation, une expérience pénible, mais avec l'écoulement d'années de travail vigoureux et sans relâche, l'espoir apparaît.

D'abord Antoinette crée son jardin parmi les souches et Maurice fait le défrichage des premiers 10 acres à l'aide de la hache. Le 6 juin 1941, Maurice doit se débrouiller comme sage-femme à la naissance de Roland, déposant le bébé dans une boîte de carton, le berceau dans ce temps! Il faut dire qu'il avait reçu des recommandations du docteur de McLennan pour cette urgence.

Le dimanche, on se rend à Guy en voiture tirée par les chevaux pour assister à la messe et faire les quelques achats nécessaires au magasin général. Une partie de la route n'est qu'une piste dans le bois. Et puisque la plupart de la nourriture provient du jardin, on achète seulement les ingrédients fondamentaux, par exemple la farine, le sucre, les médicaments. A l'arrivée de l'hiver, il faut laisser errer quelques chevaux car on n'a pas la nourriture pour les soigner et ils reviennent au printemps. Le défrichage continue avec l'aide de la charrue à casage tirée par les chevaux. Plus tard, on engage un opérateur de "cat" pour accélérer ce travail.

Durant les années suivantes, les voyages d'hiver sont améliorés par l'achat de "caboose". La ferme grandit graduellement



Antoinette, Gaetane, Maurice.

avec l'acquisition de bestiaux, de cochons et de poules. D'autres constructions apparaissent: une écurie de log et une glacière faite de croûte de bois. En 1945, une nouvelle demeure est érigée en bois de planches brutes: le haut composé de 2 chambres à coucher et le bas une grande salle générale. Et quelques graineries sont aussi érigées.

Durant les premières années on n'amasse pas beaucoup d'argent, on réserve une couple de dollars pour les urgences. Le revenu reçu de la vente d'oeufs, de bestiaux et de grain est employé pour survivre et améliorer la ferme. A partir de 1943, la vente de grain exige deux

jours d'activités. Dès le matin, Maurice débute le trajet de 24 milles pour se rendre à l'éleveur de Falher, ceci avec ses chevaux attelés au wagon de grain. Pour la nuit, il loue un logis dans une écurie et prend le repos dans la crèche avec les chevaux. Le retour prendra la majorité de la journée du lendemain. En 1946, Maurice achète un tracteur pour ouvrir le terrain: Modèle D John Deere, seconde main avec des roues de fer.

Durant les hivers de 1950 à 1959, Maurice travaille au chantier d'Honoré Maisonneuve. Et durant son absence, les enfants prennent les responsabilités nécessaires pour l'entretien des animaux sur la ferme. La progression de la ferme est démontrée ainsi:

- achat de la première auto en 1951; Henry J
- achat d'un "Cat" J.D. Modèle 40 en 1953
- Achat d'une moissonneuse-batteuse J.D. pull type en 1953, ce qui remplace la moissonneuse-lieuse et la machine à battre
- achat d'un camion en 1959
- achat d'un moulin à scie en 1959 qui nous permettra d'économiser sur diverses construction de bâtiments tel que les graineries, un hangar pour la machinerie, un garage et en dernier lieu une nouvelle maison complétée au printemps de 1962.
- achat d'une demie-section et acquisition par le programme "Homestead Lease" de deux autres demies-sections, tous ces terrains sont situés au sud de la rivière "Smoky".

Le 27 juin 1966, Maurice est décédé d'une crise cardiaque laissant sur la ferme Antoinette, Roland et Gaëtane. A l'automne 1977, Antoinette prit résidence à Falher et à la Villa Beau-séjour en juin 1983. Elle est décédée le 19 avril 1984.

Maurice Desbarnais: n. 25-06-1911 m. 16-06-1936 d. 27-06-1966

Antoinette Drouin: n. 17-04-1915 d. 19-04-1984

ENFANTS:

- 1- Françoise: n. 04-06-1937 m. 04-06-1960
Lucien Guindon: n. 25-08-1937
 - a) Maurice: n. 02-08-1961 m. 14-07-1984
Viviane Bédard: n. 23-06-1961
 - b) Richard: n. 14-11-1962
 - c) Denis: n. 09-03-1968
 - 2- Pierrette: n. 05-12-1938 m. 15-11-1956
Im: Jacques Lemire: n. 02-06-1939
 - a) Fernand: n. 01-11-1958 m. 20-10-1979
Gisèle Gagnon: n. 21-08-1957
- Ils ont trois enfants:



Maurice conduit le tracteur de sa moissonneuse-lieuse.

- b) Diane: 06-10-1961 m. 23-12-1977
 David Poudrier: n. 21-04-1952
 Ils ont un enfant.
 2ième mariage le 26-07-1969 avec Rinold Ankerstein: n. 07-11-1929
- 3- Roland: n. 06-06-1941 m. 10-07-1978
 Jeannine Côté-Noël: n. 13-05-1945 1m: 13-07-1968
 a) Léonard Noël: n. 27-11-1970
 b) Jean: n. 02-12-1980
- 4- Jeannine: n. 06-05-1948 m. 19-02-1966
 Laurent Guindon: n. 24-08-1944
 a) Roger: n. 02-10-1967
 b) Michel: n. 28-08-1968
 c) Normand: n. 25-07-1975
 d) Mathieu: n. 25-09-1983
- 5- Gaëtane: n. 14-09-1958 m. 06-11-1976
 Sidney Baptist: n. 15-08-1950

* * *

Maurice, the youngest child of Ferdinand Desharnais and of Zoé Deshène was born June 25, 1911 in Ste. Sophie de Levrard, P.Q. His wife Antoinette, the third child of Joseph Drouin and Evelina Lacasse, was born April 17, 1915 in Ste. Marguerite, P.Q. They met and married in June 1936 at St. Narcisse, P.Q. They settled on the paternal farm and resided for four years. It was here that Françoise and Pierrette were born.

Their future did not look promising because of the poor quality of the soil. When Reverend St. Pierre encouraged Maurice and Antoinette to move to Northern Alberta they sold their belongings and moved to Guy along with Annette and Felix Desharnais.

The two families arrived in Guy in June 1940. What a surprise as well as a disappointment. This area was still forest and 24 miles from the nearest town, Donnelly.

In the spring of 1941 the family moved into their new log house and began clearing by hand the first 10 acres. That same year their first son was born with Maurice attending the birth. Later, clearing land became faster and easier as a caterpillar was hired. In 1945, a new house was built. A new tractor Model D J. Deere was purchased in 1946 and during the winter of 1950 to 1959 Maurice worked in the lumber camps. Over the years more land was purchased and the family operation became more viable. In June 1966 Maurice passed away and Antoinette in April 1984.

DESHARNAIS, ROLAND & COTE, JEANNINE

par Jeannine

Roland est né le 6 juin 1941, dans le "shack"

d'Antoinette et Maurice Desbarnais, un an après leur arrivée à Guy. Il a grandi avec la ferme intention de suivre les pas de son père, c'est-à-dire un fermier qui met tout son coeur à la production du terrain.

Durant sa première année scolaire à l'école de Guy, Roland et ses soeurs Françoise et Pierrette résident au couvent du lundi au vendredi. Les années suivantes, il se rend à l'école River Valley faisant la marche journalière de $\frac{3}{4}$ de mille, aller et retour. L'instruction par cours de correspondance complètement en anglais, est difficile pour lui et n'est pas très avantageuse. La septième année scolaire est un bienfait apporté par M. et Mme Benoit Aubin. M. Aubin conduit un pick-up attaché à une "caboose" et conduit les enfants à l'école River Valley. Et



Jean, Léonard, Jeannine et Roland.

avec l'aide de l'institutrice, Mme Cécile Aubin, Roland reçoit l'instruction fondamentale en français et améliore ses connaissances dans les autres sujets. Roland retourne à l'école de Guy pour sa dernière année scolaire, la huitième. Cette même année, 1954, la Division Scolaire de High Prairie débute le service d'autobus pour

les écoliers. A l'âge de 10 ans, Roland doit prendre plusieurs responsabilités chez-lui. Durant les hivers, son père est éloigné par le travail et sa mère a besoin d'aide pour les travaux agricoles. Françoise et Roland sont responsables de l'entretien des vaches et des cochons. Pierrette s'occupe des poules. En plus il faut entrer dans la maison le bois de chauffage et remplir un baril de glace, eau pour boire, et un autre de neige pour l'eau de lavage. Le samedi Françoise et Roland se rendent à Guy en voiture attelée d'un cheval pour faire les commissions et aller au bureau de poste.

A l'automne 1956, Roland, âgé de 15 ans, se rend avec son père au chantier d'Honoré Maisonneuve; c'est son début au travail rigoureux pour assister au développement de la ferme. Le printemps suivant, après les semences, il aide son père au cassage et au ramassage de roches sur le terrain acquis par "Homestead Lease", E 1/2 2-74-21-5. Après le ramassage des récoltes à l'automne, il retourne au chantier. En 1959 il aide son père au moulin à scie afin d'accumuler

le bois nécessaire pour la constructions de divers bâtiments à la ferme. Roland retourne au chantier, celui de Ted Maisonneuve à Fort St-John, durant deux autres hivers. Donc, assistant son père dans divers travaux, Roland devient "lumberjack", scieur, constructeur et cultivateur!

A la mort de son père, le 27 juin 1966, Roland âgé de 25 ans, doit prendre les responsabilités agricoles et de gagne-pain pour subvenir aux besoins de sa mère et de sa petite soeur Gaétane qui a sept ans. Il continue d'ouvrir d'autres terrains et à cultiver ce que son père a ouvert, ceci avec des encouragements mêlés de désappointements. Par exemple, la première semence en terre neuve, 120 acres de lin croissant en une étendue bleue magnifique, est perdue à la gelée en juillet 1967. Cependant il persiste et bénéficie de bonnes récoltes les années suivantes.

Le 10 juillet 1978, Père Richer de Falher unit par les liens sacrés du mariage Roland à Jean-nine Côté-Noël, fille de Paul-Emile Côté et de



Ferme de Roland Desharnais.

Ida Guindon. Elle enseignait à Falher durant l'année scolaire de 1977-78. La famille comprend deux garçons, Léonard (27-11-1970) et Jean (02-12-1980).

* * *

Roland was born June 6, 1941, son of Maurice Desharnais and Antoinette Drouin. He grew up with the intention of following in his father's footsteps and become a farmer.

During his first year of school in Guy, Roland and his sister boarded at the convent bringing their food from home for the week. They would go home for the weekend. The following years he attended the River Valley School under Mrs. Inez Bullen's supervision of Correspondence Courses until the seventh grade in 1954 when Mrs. Cecile Aubin taught grades one to nine, and Mr. B. Aubin used his truck to bus the children to school. For his final year of schooling in Guy the High Prairie School Division No 48 had by then regular bus routes.

In 1956 and many years thereafter Roland and his father worked in the lumber camps to supplement the farm income.

When his father died in 1966 Roland took the responsibility of supporting his mother and younger sister.

On July 10, 1978 he married Jeannine Côté-Noël, daughter of P.E. Côté and Ida Guindon. At that time Jeannine was teaching in Falher. Their family consists of two boys, Leonard and Jean.

DESILETS, CAMILLE

par Eva Johnson

Camille Desilets est venu de St-Louis de France, P.Q. Il a passé par le sud de l'Alberta avant d'arriver à Guy. Ici, il est demeuré avec Josephat Benoit pendant quelques temps. Il était apiculteur. Lorsqu'il partit de Guy en 1965, il s'acheta un emplacement à Donnelly. Il vendit son rucher à Gérard Mercier pour retourner à St-Louis de France où il vit présentement. On nous dit qu'il est âgé de plus de 80 ans.

Camille était reconnu comme étant un bon vivant.

* * *

Camille Desilets came from St-Louis de France P.Q. He passed through southern ALberta before coming to Guy. Here he stayed with Josephat Benoit for a while. He was a beekeeper. When he left Guy in 1965, he bought a piece of a land in Donnelly. He sold his beehives to Gérard Mercier and returned to St-Louis de France

where he lives presently. We are told that he is over 80.

Camille was known to enjoy life.

DESILETS, EMILE

par Aimé Lemay

En avril 1919, M. Désilets arriva à Donnelly. Il était un vétéran de la guerre 1914, célibataire, âgé de 31 ans.

Il prit pour "homestead" la 1/2 sec. E 35-T. 76-R21; il y bâtit un petit "shack" et une étable pour ses chevaux.

C'était un gros et grand homme, fort capable et travaillant. La hache ne lui pesait pas au bras, il ouvrit 110 acres de terre et il cultiva avec ses six chevaux.

Il charroyait son grain à Donnelly avec ses chevaux qui étaient bien vigoureux; les petits garçons du village prenaient plaisir à leur faire peur et les chevaux partaient en épouvante. Alors à un demi-mille du village, M. Désilets attachait ses chevaux à la clôture et se rendait à pied chez M. Jacob. Celui-ci allait avec ses chevaux chercher la charge de grain et la rendait à l'éleveur.

Durant son séjour dans l'armée il avait mérité et obtenu la Croix Victoria pour avoir sauvé son régiment et il la conservait précieusement; c'était sa gloire.

Ceci lui donnait une pension à tous les trois mois, et quand il recevait sa paye il aimait bien prendre son petit coup, et payer la traite à tous ses amis, en les invitant à venir prendre une tasse avec lui; les plus jeunes il les appelait ses petits gars, même s'ils étaient déjà des hommes.

En 1947 il décida d'aller retrouver son capitaine d'armée. Il vendit sa terre à M. Honoré Maisonneuve et il partit pour Vancouver, C.B.

C'est à l'hôpital des vétérans de Vancouver qu'il est décédé vers 1972.

* * *

In April 1919, Mr. Désilets arrived in Donnelly. He was a veteran from the 1914 war, single, 31 years of age.

He took a homestead and built a little shack and a barn for his horses.

He was a big and tall man, strong, capable and a good worker. He opened 110 acres of land and he farmed with six horses.

He would haul his grain to Donnelly with his horses which were vigorous; the young boys from the village would frighten them and the horses would run away. So half a mile from the village Mr. Désilets would tie his horses to the fence and walk to Mr. Jacob's. The latter would

go get the load with his horses and bring it to the elevator.

During his spell in the army he had won and obtained the Victoria Cross for having saved his regiment. He kept this medal very precious; it was his glory. This won him a pension paid every three months and when he would get his pay, he liked to have a drink and invite all his friends to have a glass with him; he would call the younger ones lads even if they were grown men.

In 1947, he decided to go and join his army captain. He sold his land to Mr. Honoré Maison-neuve and left for Vancouver, B.C.

He died at the Veteran's hospital around 1972.

DESPINS, ROBERT & DELAGE, LOUISA

par Robert Despins

Robert est né le dix-huit novembre 1932 à quelques milles de Falher. Il est un des neuf enfants d'Ernest Despins et de Françoise LaPalme. Robert alla d'abord à l'école Pelletier, petite école de campagne et quand la famille déménagea à Falher en 1942 il fréquenta l'école de Falher. En 1953 Robert alla travailler à la Northrop Aircraft à Los Angeles en Californie, E. U.



R.1 Lucie, Lina Despins. R.2 Luc, Carole, Louisa, Robert Despins.

Robert devint citoyen américain et fut cons-crit dans l'armée américaine en 1955. Il dut faire un stage de dix-huit mois à Hawaïi. Après sa démobilisation de la marine il travailla une autre année pour Northrop Aircraft et revint chez lui à Falher en 1958. C'est alors qu'il fit la connaissance de Louisa Délage, fille d'Albert Délage et d'Yvonne Drouin et ce fut le grand amour. Ils se marièrent en 1959 et allèrent vivre à Chico, Californie, E.U. pendant neuf mois avant d'établir leur résidence permanente à Guy sur la concession SE 16-75-19-W5.

Robert et Louisa remercient Dieu pour leurs quatre enfants.

Robert Despins: n. 18-11-1932 m. 16-02-1959

Louisa Délage: n. 20-09-1941

ENFANTS:

1) Carole: n. 23-01-1960 m. 25-07-1981

Garry Fisher: n. 19-10-1954 demeurent à Blackfalds, AB

a) Patrick: n. 09-12-1977

b) Shawn: n. 25-05-1982

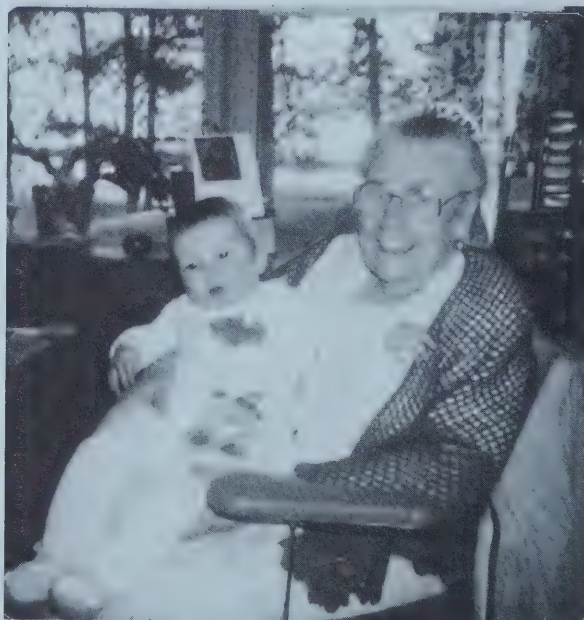
2) Lucie: n. 19-03-1961 demeure à Red Deer.

3) Luc: n. 15-09-1963 demeure à Guy et cultive avec son père.

4) Lina: n. 18-12-1964 m. 03-12-1983

Daniel Benoit: n. 17-09-1959 Ils demeurent à High Prairie, AB.

En 1977 la mère de Robert, Françoise Lapalme Despins qui aimait l'art et la nature, vint s'établir dans un petit logis-studio dans leur cour. Elle y vécut heureuse faisant de la peinture entourée de plusieurs de ses enfants qui



Shawn Ryan Fisher avec mémère Despins.

la visitaient tour à tour. L'amitié et le rapprochement de ses enfants et petits enfants pendant les six dernières années de sa vie lui ont procuré beaucoup de bonheur.

Le retour du frère de Robert, Jean, en 1978 donne une nouvelle dimension à l'établissement Despins. Jean est maintenant à sa retraite après une carrière de vingt-cinq ans comme officier dans la police de Montréal. Avec Colette, son épouse, il a choisi de s'établir près de Robert. Il s'adonne au bricolage et à la pêche. De plus Colette et Jean sont chauffeurs d'autobus pour la Division Scolaire de High Prairie.



Jean & Colette Despins.

Jean Despins: n. 06-11-1929 m. 21-01-1984

Colette Renaud: n. 27-06-1948

René, qui travaillait depuis plusieurs années à Fort McMurray, vint s'établir sur sa terre à proximité de ses frères en 1981.

Pierre Despins et son épouse Madeleine, qui étaient aussi propriétaires de terrains dans la région, mirent terme à 30 ans de résidence à Detroit, Michigan en 1983. Pierre fixa son domicile près de Robert avec un esprit de coopération agricole.

Pierre Despins: n. 01-09-1934 m. 27-05-1961
Madeleine Piché: n. 12-03-1937

Jacques et Laurent Despins, tous deux de Los Angeles, séjournent annuellement dans le



Pierre & Madeleine Despins.

milieu que leur offre Robert, afin de poursuivre leurs ambitions agricoles.

C'est dans cet optique que Robert, qui, s'initiant à sa retraite se voit le pionnier d'une colonie de Despins à Guy.

* * *

Robert was born on November 18, 1932, a few miles from Falher, one of Ernest Despins' Family of nine. He started school at the age of seven in the Pelletier country school. Later the family moved to Falher. In 1953 Robert went to California to work for Northrop Aircraft.

Drafted by the U.S. Navy in 1955 he was stationed in Hawaii for eighteen months. After his discharge from the Navy he worked one more year for Northrop Aircraft and in 1958 he came back home. He met Louisa Delage, daughter of Albert and Yvonne Delage. They married in 1959 and went back to Chico, California for nine months, after which they came to Guy to open a homestead, SE 16-75-19-W5.

Since then they are blessed with four children, Carol, Lucy, Luc and Lina.

DIETZEN, EDWARD & ILLERBRUN, BARBARA URSLA

by

Edward Dietzen was born and educated in Quinton, Saskatchewan. Barbara Ilerburn was born in Gull Lake, Saskatchewan, and was educated in Chaunavon, Saskatchewan, and Leth-

bridge, Alberta. Ed and Barb were married October 27, 1950, in Lethbridge, Alberta.

While at Lethbridge, Ed worked for the city of Lethbridge and then for Oland Construction and Barb worked for the Catelli Co.

Tony Dietzen was homesteading in this area, so we came to see the country and ended up homesteading on the S ½ of 9-74-21 W5th. In March of 1962, Tony and Ed came up together, and built houses for their families. The Ed Dietzen family moved north to stay on July 24th, 1962. Mr. Raoul Lambert cleared about 10 acres. After that, we brought a cat from Lethbridge and



Barry, Garry, Darcy, Karen, Leslie, the groom, Mrs. and Mr. Dietzen, flower girl Candace Dietzen, bride Skye.

started clearing and breaking our land. Ed worked for Flint Rig out of Valleyview. We brought one calf from Lethbridge and this was the start of a mixed farm. Barry and Gary had started their education in Lethbridge and attended Guy school for 4 years. Karen was 18 months old when she moved to the farm. In 1967, the two oldest went to school in Valleyview and later Karen, Leslie, and Darcy, finished their education in the Valleyview School System.

In 1965-66, Ed worked off the farm at Fort McMurray and 1975-76 he worked at Medicine Hat.

In 1977, we built the new house and acquired more land.

Barry and Gary farm with their Dad and own their own land. Leslie works for Widney Wells at Valleyview. Karen is taking upgrading at Grouard. Darcy is apprenticing to be a heavy duty mechanic at Dave Ross John Deere Equipment at Falher.

Edward Dietzen: n. 13-05-1929

m. 27-10-1950

Barbara Ursula Illerbrun: n. 30-01-1931

CHILDREN:

1- Barry Lloyd: n. 06-07-1953

2- Gary Richard: n. 16-12-1954
m. 28-07-1984

Ingrid Ellie Hunke

a) Celeste Jeanne: n. 22-03-1986

3- Karen Elaine n. 17-11-1960

a) Candis Nicole: n. 06-04-1980

4- Leslie Allen: n. 09-12-1962

m. 23-07-1983

Skye Colleen Sherk

a) Remington Allen: n. 20-12-1984

b) Kristen Jean: n. 07-05-1986

5- Darcy Scott: n. 24-05-1965

* * *

Alors qu'ils demeuraient à Lethbridge, Ed travailla pour la ville de Lethbridge, ensuite pour Oland Construction et Barbara travailla pour la compagnie Catelli.

Tony Dietzen travaillait sur son "homestead" dans cette région-ci, alors nous sommes venus voir ce pays, et nous avons décidé de prendre un "homestead" nous aussi.

En mars 1962, Tony et Ed sont venus tous deux pour construire deux maisons pour leurs familles. Le 24 juillet 1962 Ed Dietzen déménagea pour de bon. M. Raoul Lambert défricha 10 acres de terre. Par la suite nous apportons un tracteur à chenille de Lethbridge et commençons à défricher notre terrain nous-mêmes. Ed travailla pour Flint Rig à Valleyview. Nous avons amené un veau de Lethbridge et ce fut le commencement d'une ferme à culture mixte. Barry et Garry avait commencé leurs études à Lethbridge et ils continuèrent à l'école de Guy pendant quatre ans. Karen n'avait que 18 mois quand elle vint à la ferme. En 1967 les deux aînés suivis plus tard des trois autres enfants allèrent à l'école de Valleyview.

En 1965-66 Ed quitta la ferme pour travailler à Fort McMurray et en 1975-76 à Medicine Hat.

En 1977 nous construisions une nouvelle maison, et nous achetions d'autre terrain.

Barry et Garry travaillent sur la ferme avec leur père en plus de leur propre terre. Leslie travaille pour Widney Wells à Valleyview. Karen poursuit ses études à Grouard. Darcy est apprenti mécanicien pour machine de grande puissance chez Dave Ross, John Deere Equipment à Falher.

DLUGOSZ, ANDREZEJ & NAJBAR, MARJA

by Rene Dlugosz

Dad and Mom were married four years before Dad left Poland. Dad(Andrezej)'s dad was a widower and Mom's mother (Marja) was a widow. Both remarried which meant a bigger family causing Mom and Dad to decide to come to Canada since there was no future in Poland for them. To them, Canada was known as the Land of Cream and Honey.



Father Michalowski, Polish Priest, Andrew, Mariya, L'Abbé Paul Gagnon, Rene and Kizic Dlugosz. Picture taken in front of Albert Tokarz house.

Dad left Poland May 25, 1928 on a ship of the "Cunard Line" in Warsaw and arrived in Donnelly June 28, 1928. On the boat he met Mr. Mike Sniezek. Upon arrival in Donnelly they were very disappointed. They did not have money, no place to stay, no one to meet them and moreover there was a language barrier. But they found work on the railroad. Then in the fall they were laid off, so left to go to work in Lacombe at a sawmill. In the spring of 1929 they came back and met Walter Wawrzonek and went in search of land in Tangent, Webster and Sexsmith areas. The land was not what they wanted, so they came to Guy. Dad filed on homestead NW ¼ 21-75-20-W5. Since Dad and Walter's land were adjoining, they lived together in a caboose. This caboose was so small that when they were in bed, and wished to turn around they had to half sit, then turn. They also needed a cook stove so they bought one. They loaded it on a wagon. When they reached the Dlugosz field, they hit bumps and the stove fell in the slough. They could not lift the stove so it was left in the slough till it dried.

To work the land, Dad had two horses and so did Walter Wawrzonek. They shared these horses to break the land. That summer they started building shacks covered with sod.



Mrs. Dlugosz beside a load of sheaves by a threshing machine.

During the depression my Dad and Walter Wawrzonek, Mr. Tokarz and Mr. Sniezek did contract work such as grubbing and putting up log buildings. They were working for about 25 cents a day. They lived in granaries and ate mainly moose meat. In spring they would search for duck eggs to add to their meal. They would only buy flour, sugar, salt and pepper and sometimes if possible, coffee.

Also the farm produce could not be sold as there was an oversupply making the price so low. For example: eggs at 10 cents a dozen were mixed in oats and fed to the horses. The horses had beautiful shiny hair.



R.1 Kistic, René. R.2 unknown, Mrs. Mariya Dlugosz, Andrew.



Mrs. Dlugosz.

Mom left Poland April 15, 1932 on the Scandinavia America Line and reached Donnelly April 28, 1932. When she came off the train she would have loved to go right back to Poland. All my Dad had to offer her as a welcome gift was a bag of dried apples.

By the time Mom arrived, Dad had land, a shack covered with sod, a small barn, one cow, a dozen chickens and horses. Mom was very disappointed and cried so much out of loneliness due to the language barrier that she could have bathed in her own tears. When times did get a little better, our families and neighbors would exchange or buy cases of fruit etc. and divide them amongst themselves.

Dad bought Willy Brulotte's farm in approximately 1944. He also logged lumber a half mile east of Guy to help build the church in Guy. Andrezej and Marja had two children, Rene and Kizic. Mom passed away October 1970 and Dad passed away November 1974.

Andrezej Dlugosz: n. 02-09-1900 at Kombornis, Poland m. 1924

d. 11-1974



Andrew Dlugosz & Marya Dlugosz.

Marja Najbar: n. 31-10-1904 from Kroscieuko Vyzue Poland.

d. 10-1970

CHILDREN:

1) Rene: n. 10-05-1934

2) Kizic: n. 25-10-1935

* * *

Mon père et ma mère ont été mariés quatre ans avant que mon père quitte la Pologne pour le Canada. Sur le bateau il rencontra M. Mike Sniezek. L'arrivée à Donnelly fut un décapointement. Sans le sou, sans logis, il y avait en plus l'obstacle de la langue. Ils trouvèrent du travail sur le chemin de fer et à Lacombe dans un moulin à scie.

Après avoir cherché du terrain à Tangent, Webster et Sexsmith en compagnie de Walter Wawrzonek, ils se rendirent à Guy. Pour défricher, Walter et mon père s'échangeaient les chevaux et partageaient une "caboose" pour logis. Durant la dépression on coupait de la branche et bâtissait des bâtiments en bois rond, mangeant de l'original et des oeufs de canard et gagnant vingt-cinq sous par jour.

Maman arriva en avril 1932. Elle aurait voulu retourner tout de suite. Elle pleura beaucoup d'ennui et d'isolement, surtout à cause de la langue.

Papa acheta la ferme de Willy Brulotte en 1944.

DLUGOSZ, KIZIC & FALEBRENZA, MARY

by Mary and Kizic

Kizic Joseph Dlugosz was born October 25, 1935 to Andrew and Maria Dlugosz. Kizic attended the Whiteland School in Guy until he reached grade eight. Going to school in those days meant an hour or two of walking before even starting class. Then came grade nine when Kizic attended the Prairie River School until completion of that grade.

Once school was over for Kizic he found his first job changing tires at Ike Lawrence's garage. A couple of months later, a better job came along working for an American seismic company.

After enough money was saved up, Kizic bought his own land and farmed it with the help of his father and his equipment. Shortly thereafter Kizic bought his first herd of cows.

It was soon after that Kizic met Mary Falebrenza of Culp. Mary went to school in Culp until the end of grade six and then transferred to the Girouxville school to complete up to grade twelve. Kizic was quoted as saying "I was a really



Irene's birthday party. R.1 Henry and Leo Wawrzonek. R.2 Irene Wawrzonek, Rene Dlugosz, Jos and John Wawrzonek and Kizic Dlugosz.



R.1 Susan, Mary, Bobby. R.2 Tommy, Kizic and Gerry.

good boy until I met Mary". He saw her for the first time in the Bank of Montreal in Falher. July 20, 1961 Kizic and Mary were wed.

For the first couple of years Mary and Kizic worked on their farm together. In the year of 1963 their first child was born and named Jerry Andrew. By the time they both recuperated from the first son, the second one was born, Tommy Kenneth. Jenny Susan was born shortly after that.

Nineteen hundred sixty-six was the year Kizic and Mary decided to move into High Prairie. Kizic started selling his cattle, a few head at a time from 1966 to 1969.

Their first house was built in 1968. After deciding that this house was much too small, they built their second house two years later. Their youngest was born and named Bobby Dwayne.

In the year of 1970 Kizic started working for the town of High Prairie during the winter. Then in summer his days were filled with his farming.

It was three years later that Mary started working for the Hudson's Bay Company where she still works.

All three boys were put through minor hockey with all three of them still playing avidly. Bob with the midgets and Tom both playing for the Regals, with Jerry playing ice recreational hockey.

Jerry presently owns his own glass business in High Prairie (High Prairie Glass 1983 Ltd.) Tom, their second eldest works for the Town of High

Prairie. Jenny, their third child is now working for the Marigold Enterprises, and their youngest son is still in school (grade twelve) and hopes to get his CMA in accounting.

Kizic and Mary are both still working for their employers. The farm takes most of their spare moments.

Kizic Dlugosz: n. 25-10-1935 m. 20-07-1961
Mary Falebrenza:

CHILDREN:

- 1) Jerry Andrew: n. 26-02-1963
- 2) Tommy Kenneth: n. 12-07-1965
- 3) Jenny Susan: n. 27-12-1966
- 4) Bobby Dwayne: n. 07-11-1969

* * *

Kizic fréquenta les écoles de Whiteland et de Prairie River.

Comme premier travail Kizic changeait des pneus dans un garage et ensuite il travailla pour une compagnie sismique américaine. Après avoir économisé assez d'argent il acheta son propre terrain, et cultiva avec l'aide de son père. Il acheta aussi un troupeau de vaches qu'il vendit par la suite.

Mary fréquenta l'école de Culp et de Girouxville, Kizic la rencontra à Falher. Après leur mariage ils travaillaient tous les deux à la ferme. Le travail hors du foyer s'avéra nécessaire alors Kizic travailla pour le village de High Prairie et Mary au magasin de la Baie d'Hudson où elle travaille encore. La ferme occupe leur temps libre.

DLUGOSZ, RENE & MYCEK, SOPHIE

by Rene Dlugosz

I, Rene Dlugosz, eldest son of Andrzej and Marja Dlugosz was born on May 10, 1934 in Forest View, at home. I attended the Whiteland School and then went to Prairie River School in High Prairie, Alberta for two years. While attending the Whiteland School, very often I had to walk or take a ride with the neighbor in their cutter.



Christmas concert at Whiteland School. Rene is tallest boy.

After leaving school I would help my father on the farm in the summer months and in the winter months, I worked on the oil rigs.

On October 22, 1959 I married Sophie Mycek. She was born on July 18, 1937 in Tangent at home. Once married, Sophie and I moved to our farm on the NW of 21-75-20-W5. We worked very hard at clearing the land.

Sophie and I had two sons. Richard, the eldest was born on April 10, 1965. Roger, the youngest was born on July 30, 1967. Both boys are students at the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Engineering.

For the last fifteen years we have lived in High



Rene Dlugosz at home.

Prairie for the winter months and come back to the farm for the summer months.

Rene Dlugosz: n. 10-05-1934 m. 22-10-1959

Sophie Mycek: n. 18-07-1937

CHILDREN:

1) Richard: n. 10-04-1965

2) Roger: n. 30-07-1967

* * *

Moi, René Dlugosz, je fréquentai l'école de Whiteland et celle de Prairie River ayant souvent à marcher ou à accepter un tour de traîneau. En laissant l'école j'aidai mon père durant l'été et travaillai aux puits d'huile durant l'hiver.

Après notre mariage nous sommes installés sur la ferme et avons commencé à défricher.

Nos deux garçons sont étudiants à l'Université de l'Alberta. Depuis quinze ans nous vivons à High Prairie durant l'hiver et revenons à la ferme à l'été.

DROUIN, DANIEL & BASTIEN, ANNETTE

by Annette

Being both originally from Guy, we decided to settle in this area. After leaving school, we both worked at various jobs. Annette worked in Calgary for a short time before moving back to Guy. Daniel worked at construction and lumber industries in Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

Our homestead is Sec. 13-76-20 and we are planning to move there in the near future. We own equipment and rely on contracts for our main income while trying to establish a viable farming operation.

Daniel Drouin: n.19-12-1955

m.22-09-1979

Annette Bastien: n.30-01-1961

CHILDREN:

1) Dominique: n.08-08-1981

2) Danielle: n.19-06-1983

3) Chantal: n.29-06-1985

* * *

Etant tout deux de Guy, nous avons décidé de nous établir dans cette région. Après avoir laissé l'école nous avons travaillé à divers emplois. Annette a travaillé à Calgary pour un temps avant de revenir à Guy. Daniel travailla à la construction et à l'industrie du bois en Alberta et dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Nous avons un "homestead" et espérons y déménager bientôt. Nous possédons notre pro-

pre équipement et nous nous fions sur des contrats pour notre revenu principal tout en essayant de devenir une entreprise viable.

DROUIN, FERNAND & IM LACHANCE THERESE; 2M BOUCHER-CLAVEAU, IRÈNE

par Fernande

Fernand est né à Ferland, Saskatchewan, fils de Joseph Drouin et Evelina Lacasse. Il arriva à Guy à l'automne 1941.

Fernand, avec l'aide de son père, acheta un camion neuf, International. L'hiver 1950 il charroyait de la planche du chantier de Raoul Lambert avec un homme à gage. Fernand fit un bénéfice de 1000,00 \$ durant l'hiver.



Fernand et Thérèse Drouin.

Fernand a rencontré Thérèse, fille de Fortunat Lachance et de Amanda Brisson, au pique-nique de la paroisse de Guy en 1950 et ils se sont mariés à l'automne. Fernand a travaillé huit ans aux chantiers après son mariage soit à bûcher ou à opérer un "cat". Il travailla à la construction du couvent de Guy pendant quelque temps.

Il acheta sa première automobile, une Pontiac, en 1952. A la mort de son père, en 1955, Fernand prit la terre paternelle avec une dette sur les machines de 13 000,00 \$. Pendant vingt-deux ans Fernand et Thérèse résidèrent dans la maison paternelle et élevèrent leurs douze

enfants. Thérèse, bonne maman, s'intéressait toujours à l'éducation de ses enfants. Elle insistait sur les devoirs bien faits et leur aidait quand c'était nécessaire. La terre paternelle fut vendue à René Gagnon en 1977.

En 1976, Fernand et Thérèse avec leurs six plus jeunes enfants, déménagèrent sur leur terre sur les côtes de la rivière Smoky au sud de Guy. Il a vendu cette terre et la maison à Robert Benoit en 1982.



Famille de Fernand et Thérèse Drouin. R.1 Gisèle, Angèle, Carmen, Denise, Fernand, Normand. R.2 Fernande, Thérèse, Gaétan, Rachelle, Dolores et Raymond.

Fernand et Thérèse ont reçu un certificat de mérite du "Alberta Social Services and Community Health" en reconnaissance des cinq années de dévouement au soin des enfants qu'ils ont parrainés.

Fernand Drouin: n. 22-11-1928 m. 28-10-1950

Thérèse Lachance: n. 16-08-1928 à Ste-Justine, Dorchester, Québec, d. 09-08-1979

ENFANTS:

1- Gisèle: n. 12-05-1951 m. 31-12-1970

Denis Marin: n. 23-05-1950

a) Kevin: n. 17-08-1971

b) Chantal: n. 17-05-1975

Ils demeurent à Valleyview, Alberta.

2- Rosaire: n. 08-12-1952 d. bébé

3- Gérard: n. 17-07-1954 d. bébé

4- Fernande: n. 11-06-1955 m. 19-07-1973

Gustave Ouellet: n. 29-03-1951

a) Annabelle: n. 25-03-1975 adoptée 01-12-1982

b) Kirk: n. 10-08-1975 adopté 01-03-1984

c) Tex-Antoine: n. 02-06-1980 adopté 21-06-1980

Ils demeurent à Tangent

5- Dolores: n. 02-06-1956 m. 21-07-1979

Lloyd Bitz: n. 20-03-1959

a) Danny: n. 11-03-1980

b) Christina: n. 17-07-1981

Ils demeurent à Whitecourt, Alberta.

6- Rachelle: n. 09-05-1957 m. 17-02-1976

Gary Young: n. 07-01-1947

a) Candice: 23-08-1976

b) Kimberley: n. 17-12-1977

c) Amy: n. 06-04-1982

d) Christopher: n. 03-10-1984

Ils demeurent à High Prairie, Alberta.

7- Raymond: n. 01-05-1958 m. 25-06-1983

Mavis Amundson: n. 26-02-1963

a) Lynette: n. 11-06-1986

Ils demeurent à High Prairie.

8- Angèle: n. 15-02-1960 m. 07-07-1986

Brian McLachlan: n. 19-11-1956

Ils demeurent à High Prairie, Alberta

9- Carmen: n. 06-01-1963 m. 29-11-1986

Rolf Janhsen: n. 06-03-1959

a) Danielle: n. 7-10-1986

Ils demeurent à High Prairie, Alberta.

10- Normand: n. 21-04-1964, il travaille
comme comptable chez "Albert's Deli" à
Edmonton.

11- Denise: n. 21-10-1965, elle fait ses études
à la Faculté St-Jean afin de devenir insti-
tutrice.

12- Gaëtan: n. 27-05-1967, il prend des cours
de "Law Enforcement" au Collège de Leth-
bridge.

2m de Fernand le 22-05-1982

Irène Boucher-Claveau: n. 08-12-1932. Ils
demeurent à Jean Côté.

* * *

From Ferland, Sask., Fernand arrived in Guy in the fall of 1941. With the help of his father he bought a new truck with which he would haul lumber from Raoul Lambert's lumber camp in Whitemud. He cleared 1 000,00 \$ during that winter of 1950.

He met Thérèse Lachance at a parish picnic in 1950 and they were married in the fall. Fernand worked at lumber camps for eight years after their wedding, either as logger or cat operator. He worked at the construction of the Guy convent for a while.

He bought his first car, a Pontiac, in 1952. Upon the death of his father, in 1955 he took the family farm with \$ 13000,00 debt on machinery.

During twenty-two years, Fernand and Thérèse resided in the family home and brought up their twelve children. Thérèse, a good mother, took a keen interest in the education of her chil-

dren. She insisted on homework being well done and helped them out when necessary.

In 1976, Fernand and Thérèse with their six younger children moved on their land on the banks of the Little Smoky River where they built another house. Fernand sold this land and the house to Robert Benoit in 1982.

Fernand and Thérèse have received a certificate of merit from Alberta Social Services and Community Health in appreciation for five years spent caring for foster children.

DROUIN, HERVE AND FAMILY

by Jeannette, eldest daughter

Hervé Drouin came from Québec in 1927, at the ambitious young age of 19. Not having any money nor work, he lived with Father Mallet for about a year, then with the Gaucher family for a while.

He got work whenever he could, and finally filed on a homestead near Guy and bought himself a blond horse. He worked for Jos and Frank Aubin during the harvest season. At the same time, he worked hard at clearing and developing his new homestead and building his new log house.

On December 26, 1934, he married Yvette, the eldest daughter of Aimé and Marie Anne



Hervé & Yvette Drouin.

Cloutier. He was 27 years of age, and his lovely bride was 19. After the sorrow of losing their first baby, a daughter who was stillborn, they went on to have seven more children, four boys and three girls.

Our father became quite renowned for the fine haircuts he gave, even the fashionable "Elvis Presley look" for boys. Unfortunately for us girls, he never did learn to give the stylish new look we wanted, after the "broom cut" went out.

We were always extremely proud of our parents. I recall Father having to work out during those long cold winters while Mother single handedly looked after the farm and all of us seven children. She did all the outside chores as well as her housework, with no complaints.

There was no electricity back then, so we tagged along and held the lantern for her while she did the chores. She milked cows and fed the few other animals we were fortunate enough to have.

The two older boys, Gérard and Paul, rode our old mare to attend school at Ballater. To my dismay, the little one-room country school was closed by the time I turned six years of age.

Instead, we were transferred to Guy which was about 3½ miles away, to live at the convent and attend school five days a week. Uncle Philippe, father's brother, built a horsedrawn caboose to transport us and a few other neighbor's children to the convent every Monday morning. He fetched us back on Friday afternoons. We thoroughly enjoyed the rides in his caboose which was equipped with a heater and benches for our comfort. In later years, a regular school bus transported us to school in Guy, and the convent no longer took in children.



Gerard, Paul, Raymond, Rita, Jeannette, Yvette, Irene, on the way to a picnic in Guy.

Our regional post office and grocery store was run by Joe Morin and his wife, Rolande. If we were fortunate enough to have a dime, off we'd go to spend it on a bag of candy or a chocolate bar. Whenever we had extra butter, Mother sold in to Mr. Morin for resale to his other customers.

The biggest tragedy that struck our family was when our dear mother died of leukemia at the age of 43. Henri, the youngest, was barely six years old at the time. With the help of our parish priest, Father Campagna, our friends and neighbors we managed somehow, but it was an extremely sad time for all of us. It is most unfortunate that Mother never lived to see any of her grandchildren. I quit school at that time to look after my younger brothers and sisters.

By that time, Father owned a section of land and enough machinery to farm it. He had bought the land belonging to "Peg Leg Charlie", of whom we have fond memories.

Hervé Drouin: n.28-07-1908

m. 26-12-1934

d. 07-11-1971

Yvette Cloutier: n. 31-12-1915

d. 05-05-1959

CHILDREN:

1- Gérard: n. 04-04-1939

m.09-10-1961

d. 02-04-1964

Augustine Forseille; n.16-11-1938

a) Gerry: n. 11-10-1964

2- Paul: n. 09-06-1941

m. 27-02-1965

Georgina Steel

They have two children: Wayne and Sue-Ann.

3- Jeannette: n. 11-06-1943

m. 09-11-1962

George Guidon

a) Donald: n. 08-07-1967

b) Gilbert: n. 01-05-1970

c) David: n. 14-01-1976

4- Raymond: n. 12-09-1946

m.

Madeleine

They have three children.

5- Rita: n. 26-11-1948

m. 19-04-1968

Jack Doris

a) Shirley: n. 08-05-1969

b) Debbie: n. 10-03-1974

6- Irène: n. 16-10-1950

m. 18-08-1979

Garry Baumgartner

a) Launa: n. 17-05-1982

7- Henri: n. 30-11-1952 (single)

d. 29-04-1979

Hervé Drouin s'aventure du Québec vers l'Ouest canadien en 1927, à l'âge de 19 ans. N'ayant ni argent ni travail, il vécut avec le Père Mallet pendant un an et de là avec la famille Gauthier pendant quelque temps.

Travaillant par-ci par-là, il prit un "homestead" près du village de Guy et acheta un cheval blond. Il travailla pour Joe et Frank Aubin pendant les récoltes et en même temps, il travailla fort à défricher son propre terrain et à construire sa nouvelle maison en bois rond.

Le 26 décembre 1934, il épousa Yvette fille aînée de Aimé et Marie-Anne Cloutier. Il avait 27 ans; elle en avait 19. Ils eurent la douleur de perdre leur premier enfant, morte né, une petite fille. Ils eurent sept autres enfants, dont quatre garçons et trois filles.

Une grande tragédie frappa la famille quand notre mère mourut de leucémie à quarante-trois ans. Le cadet Henri n'avait alors que six ans. Notre curé, Père Campagna, des amis et des voisins aidant, nous avons réussi à passer à travers ce temps triste. Il est regrettable que maman n'aie jamais connu ses petits-enfants. J'ai dû quitter l'Ecole pour m'occuper de mes jeunes frères et soeurs.

A ce moment là, notre père, ayant acheté la terre de "Peg Leg Charlie", possédait toute une section de terre et la machinerie pour la cultiver.



Joseph & Evelina Drouin. Photo de noces.

DROUIN, JOSEPH & LACASSE, EVELINA

par Madeleine (Drouin) Brulotte

Joseph Cyprien Drouin, né le 3 mars 1885, à Ste-Marguerite, Dorchester, Québec, était le fils de Joseph Drouin et Marie Sylvain. A l'âge de 25 ans il épousa Evelina Lacasse qui avait 16 ans. Elle est née à Ste-Claire, Québec le 6 février 1894, fille de Joseph Lacasse et Domicile Provost. Leur mariage eut lieu à Ste-Claire, Québec le 27 septembre 1910.

Mon père travaillait comme agent pour Massey-Harris dans la paroisse voisine à Ste-Marguerite.

En 1926 il décide de s'installer sur une ferme à Mankota, Saskatchewan. Là, il avait un beau-frère du nom de Ludger Couture.

On a fait le voyage par train. Moi, Madeleine, je n'avais que deux ans. Nous sommes demeurés six ans en Saskatchewan.

Mon père avait assez grand de terrain pour faire sa vie, mais les récoltes étaient nulles d'une année à l'autre à cause de la sécheresse et des sauterelles. Il a donc décidé de retourner au Québec; cette fois-ci avec Félix et Jos Desbar-

nais. Il avait un camion pour le transport de notre ménage et aussi pour la famille. Notre terre n'a pas été vendue mais nous sommes partis quand même.

Nous sommes retournés à 25 milles de Ste-Marguerite, près d'un village du nom de St-Narcisse Neubois, sur une petite ferme de trois acres de large par un mille de long, en 1932. Là nous sommes demeurés neuf ans. Cela a été difficile pour moi et mes soeurs : l'école toute en français maintenant tandis qu'en Saskatchewan c'était plutôt en anglais.

Encore là mes parents ne se plaisaient pas trop; le grain séchait avant qu'il n'ait trois pouces de haut. Comme plusieurs parlaient de la région de la Rivière La Paix, mes parents décident de retourner dans l'Ouest mais cette fois en Alberta. Mon père disait: "Du terrain neuf à défricher. J'établirai mes garçons". Donc au printemps de 1941, mon père avec mon frère Henri-Paul, âgé de 14 ans, venaient faire application pour un "homestead". Ils ont demeuré chez deux de mes soeurs, Annette et



R.1 Joseph et Evelina Drouin. R.2 Madeleine, Yvonne, Annette, Antoinette, Yvette, Jeanne D'Arc. R.3 Henri-Paul, Philippe, Lionel et Fernand.

Antoinette Desbarnais, qui demeuraient déjà à Guy depuis 1940.

Au mois de septembre, ma mère, deux soeurs, deux frères, moi-même et deux amis voisins, Lucien et René Caux, partirent en auto. Nous étions huit dans un Buick 1928. Le voyage dura seize jours. Nous avons bien aimé la traversée à Sault-Ste-Marie. Nous avons couché un soir sur le bateau et à part cela on a toujours couché dans l'auto. C'était un ancien Buick avec de petits sièges dans le milieu. Nous les avons otés et ça donnait assez de place pour ma

mère, Yvette et moi. Jeanne d'Arc couchait sur le siège avant. Quatre grandes planches larges sur les dossiers servaient de lit aux quatres garçons. Les vitres baissées nous dormions très bien.

Nous roulions de quatre cents à quatre cent cinquante milles par jour. Finalement arrivé à Falber, la Buick était finie. Nous sommes restés pris dans le gumbo. C'est M. Joseph Lagaçé, de Guy, qui nous a rendu chez lui. Nous avons été bien reçus. Nous sommes arrivés chez mes soeurs seulement le lendemain, car les chevaux étaient rendus à bout. Il n'y avait pas de chemin et par moment il y avait de l'eau jusqu'en dessous du ventre des chevaux.

Enfin maman dit: "C'est ici". Quelle joie de revoir mes soeurs. On avait beaucoup de choses à se dire. Mais elles n'étaient pas installer grandement avec leurs petites familles. M. Adélar Martel a été bien gentil de nous laisser rester dans son "shack" en attendant qu'on bâtisse notre maison sur le terrain que mon père avait pris, le NW 9-75-20-W5.

La vie était bien différente de celle d'aujourd'hui. Cela a été bien difficile pour mes parents d'ouvrir du terrain à leur âge; mon père avait 57 ans. A tous les matins nous marchions, ni plus ni moins, que dans un sentier d'eau. Nous en avions par bout jusqu'aux genoux et pendant un mille.

Je me rappelle maman n'avait pas de moulin à coudre. Elle nous avait fait chacun un ensemble en "overall" tout à la main, pour ramasser des racines. Mon père défrichait à la



R.1 Louisa, Yvon Delage, Gilles Desbarnais, Claude Delage, Denise Servant, Loraine Drouin, Juliette & Ethel Brulotte, Marielle Drouin, Jacques & Fernand Desbarnais. R.2 Pierrette Desbarnais, Mariette Delage, Françoise Desbarnais, Yolande Delage, Grand-père avec bébé Rose Anna Brulotte, Grand-mère avec Emile Brulotte, Roland & Irène Desbarnais.

baché. Madeleine, Yvette, Jeanne D'Arc, Henri-Paul, Fernand et moi nous mettions le bois en tas et maman brûlait et attisait.

C'est mon mari, Delphis, qui a ouvert une partie de notre demie-section, avec son 15-30 McCormick.

Nous avons aussi eu des peines et des moments joyeux. Nous avons de bons parents, qui ont travaillé très fort pour nous autres; ils n'ont jamais oublié de nous élever dans la foi et l'amour.

Pour terminer la vie ou l'histoire de nos chers parents, maman s'est beaucoup ennuyée au début. Un après-midi en arrière du "shack" de ma soeur Antoinette, nous avons pleuré toutes les deux. J'ai dit: "Pourquoi pleure-t-on, nous n'avons même pas l'argent pour retourner".

Maman me répond: "Je crois qu'il va falloir s'encourager et rester". Le monde nous disait: "Quand vous aurez bu de l'eau du marécage, vous allez rester et c'est ce qui est arrivé."

Mon père est décédé le 24 septembre 1955 à l'hôpital de McLennan à l'âge de 70 ans et sept mois. Maman est décédée le 29 mars 1957 à la maison à l'âge de 63 ans. Tous les deux d'épuisement.

Jeanne D'Arc se souvient:

Nous sommes arrivés en Alberta une fameuse année mouilleuse. Les chemins étaient tellement boueux que nous devions arrêter la Buick parfois pour la débourber. Arrivés à Guy, heureusement nous nous sommes fait de bons amis. Dans ce temps-là il se faisait de belles veillées dans les maisons privées. C'était amusant d'apprendre les danses de par ici. En peu de temps nous ne demandions plus à nos parents de retourner dans l'Est.

Yvette raconte:

Le soir de mon arrivée à Guy, après un long trajet de dix-huit milles en wagon, car les chemins étaient impraticables en auto, j'étais tellement découragée que je ne voulais pas manger. Nous étions chez ma soeur Antoinette Desbarnais. Sa cave était remplie d'eau; il y avait un avantage nous n'avions qu'à ouvrir la trappe de la cave et nous avions toute l'eau dont on avait besoin. Le premier hiver Jeanne d'Arc et moi l'avons passé chez M. et Mme Ernest Gosselin.

Joseph Cyprien Drouin: n. 03-03-1885 m. 27-09-1910 d. 24-09-1955

Evelina Lacasse: n. 06-02-1894 d. 29-03-1957

ENFANTS:

1- Philippe: n. 23-01-1912 m. 26-12-1940 d. 16-08-1984

Eugénie Rouillard: n. 25-03-1912

a) Marielle mariée avec Rock Larose. Ils ont deux enfants: Michel et Diane.

2- Annette: n. 31-12-1912 m. 30-08-1936
Félix Desbarnais: n. 02-04-1908

(Voir Desbarnais, Félix)

3- Antoinette: n. 16-04-1915 m. 16-06-1936
d. 04-20-1984

Maurice Desbarnais: n. 25-06-1911

d. 27-6-1966

(Voir Desbarnais, Maurice)

4- Yvonne: n. 27-04-1917 m. 03-07-1935

Albert Delâge: n. 22-06-1909

d. 23-03-1980

(Voir Delâge, Albert)

5- Lionel: n. 25-12-1919 m. 19-10-1944

d. 01-08-1977

Armande Charest: n. 11-11-1925

d. 08-11-1975

Ils ont 11 enfants (voir Drouin, Lionel)

6- Yvette: n. 27-04-1922 m. 07-07-1943

Henri Brulotte: n. 15-06-1921

Ils ont deux enfants (voir Brulotte, Henri).

7- Madeleine: n. 09-10-1923 m. 07-07-1943

Delphis Brulotte: n. 10-05-1918

Ils ont huit enfants (voir Brulotte, Delphis).

8- Jeanne D'Arc: n. 21-02-1925 m. 26-06-1945

Sylva Servant: n. 02-11-1921

Ils ont trois filles: Denise, Sylvianne et Suzanne (jumelles).

9- Henri-Paul: n. 27-04-1926 m. 22-11-1952

Véronique Côté: n. 10-04-1928

(Voir Drouin, Henri-Paul).

10- Fernand: n. 22-11-1928 m. 28-10-1950

Thérèse Lachance: n. 16-08-1928 d. 09-08-1979

(voir Drouin, Fernand).

* * *

As a young man, my father was a Massey-Harris agent at Ste-Marguerite, Dorchester, Quebec.

In 1956 he decided to settle on a farm in Mankota, Sask. There he had a brother-in-law named Ludger Couture. So the whole family moved there. We came by train and stayed for six years.

My father had enough land to survive but drought and grasshoppers got the best of the crop so we returned to Quebec with Felix and Jos Desbarnais. He had a truck to bring the family and the furniture.

In 1932 we returned to St-Narcisse Nebois on a small farm three acres wide by a mile long. We stayed there for nine years.

There again my parents were not too pleased. The grain would dry before it was three inches high. As many were talking about the Peace River region my parents decided to return west, this time in Alberta. Dad said: "New land to open. I will establish my sons." Thus in the spring of 1941, my father and my brother Henri-Paul aged 14 came to apply for a homestead. They stayed at my sisters, Annette and Antoinette Desharnais who were living in Guy since 1940.

In September, my mother, two sisters, two brothers, two neighbor friends, Lucien and René Caux, and myself started out in a car. We were eight in a 1928 Buick. The trip took sixteen days. We enjoyed crossing at Sault Ste-Marie where we slept one night on the boat. Otherwise we slept every night in the car. When we reached Falher, the Buick was a wreck. We got stuck in the gumbo. Mr Joseph Lagacé of Guy took us to his place where we were made welcome. Because the horses were too tired, it was only the next day that we arrived at my sisters. There was no road and at times water was up to the horses' bellies. What a joy to see my sisters again. Mr. Adelard Martel was good enough to let us stay in his shack until we built our own house on father's land.

Life was very different in those days. It was very difficult for our aging parents to open land. My father was 57. I remember mother sewing overalls for picking roots, all by hand because she had no sewing machine. Father would cut down the trees, Yvette, Jeanne d'Arc, Henri-Paul, Fernand and I would pile them and mother would set the fire.

My husband, Delphis opened part of our half-section with his 15-30 McCormick.

We had joys and sorrows but we had good parents who worked very hard for us. They never failed to direct us in faith and love.

DROUIN, LIONEL & CHAREST, ARMANDE (1m)

GUENETTE, CECILE IRENE (2m)

by Cécile Irène Guénette

Johnny Charest and Adelaïde Gagnon were amongst the settlers, who in 1927-28 and 29 came to farm in the Forestview area. They arrived from Beaumont, Alberta. They had a family of nine children, one of whom was a daughter named Armande.

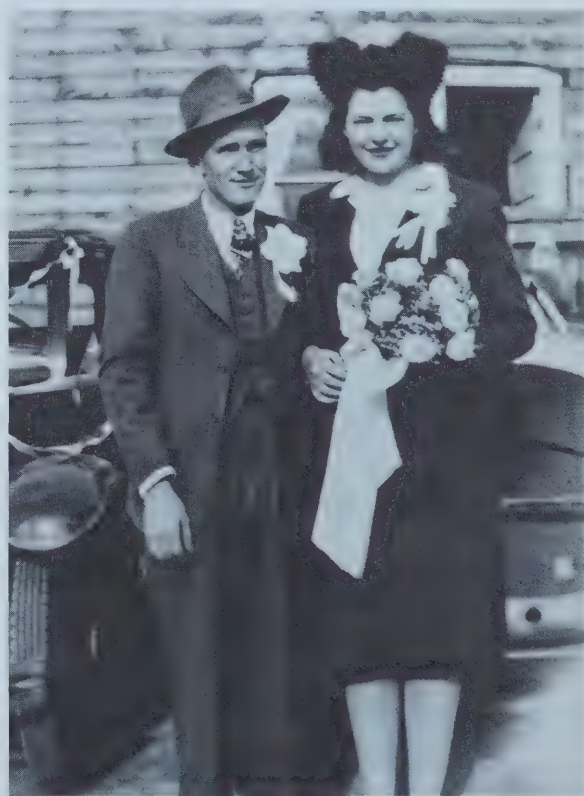
In 1941, Joseph Drouin and Evelina Lacasse came from Mankota, Saskatchewan, also to settle in this beautiful area of the Peace River District which was known as Guy. They had a family of ten children some already married.

Lionel, (Noël) son of Joseph and Evelina

Drouin was born in Ste-Marguerite, Province of Québec. He married Armande Cécile Charest on October 19, 1944. Their nuptial vows were blessed by M. l'Abbé Paul Gagnon. The newly wed couple settled on a farm south east of the Hamlet of Guy, where they worked hard to clear the land and make a living for themselves. As was the customs of the time during the winter months, many farmers worked at lumber camps. Lionel and Armande were no exception. Come spring they would return to the farm to make a garden, clear and cultivate the land. Every second year seemed to bring a new mouth to be fed. In 1965, their eleventh child was born. Thus the need for improvements, such as an addition to the house, a larger garden and the cultivation of more land.

The 1950's and '60's were prosperous years. The working hours were long, since farm machinery had to be bought and paid for. Being a handyman Lionel acquired tools and a welder which were in a covered shed. Neighbors and relatives profited from such a convenience which brought many visitors to the Drouin farm.

Armande was the dutiful mother who tended to the daily needs of her family. She soon had a good sewing machine which enabled her to make clothes for her growing youngsters. Canning the



Lionel & Armande Drouin.

vegetables was a special chore but help was provided by the numerous hands which shelled the peas, removed tips from the string beans and hauled the remains. Every summer, the family would go to the Smoky River, where saskatoons grew in abundance and everyone picked and picked. For many years, Armande's annual quota of canning was 500 jars.

Here are some anecdotes as related by Lorette. As a pre-schooler, she remember staying in a small cabin at the lumber camp. "Mom had a gas washing machine. That would not be so vivid in my mind, but one day , it caught on fire. The fear from a four or five year old stays. Dad had to pull it outside so the rest of the cabin wouldn't catch on fire." She also recalls that the Eaton's and Simpsons-Sears catalogues were used for cut-outs. "I'll never forget being in the cabin, cutting all those ladies out of the catalogues. After a while, I had too many ladies and not enough clothes, so off came all the heads, the legs and arms. Mom and Dad laughed so hard".

In the early sixties their first TV was purchased. That was exciting, but, Lorette believes that getting the power a few years previously, was even more exciting, She says: "I was there, when the light bulb went on for the first time in that farm house. I stood there and like everybody else, I waited for the big moment. Now, it sounds so silly but then how happy we were. A fridge was soon there. How things progressed from then on! Exciting things were happening such as getting a bathroom. Our first telephone was on a party-line of ten families."

Lorette continues: "Dad was an early riser. He was a farmer, a mechanic, a welder and a



Joanne, Lionel, Leon, Clement enjoying a game of Wild World.

carpenter. In fact, I never knew anything to break down that either Mom or Dad could not repair. As children, we never really knew the hardships that they endured as parents. There was always food on the table at mealtime, but we did not eat between meals."

Now, by 1974, after having farmed for thirty years and the older children on their own; Noël (as he was most commonly called) decided to buy an acreage in the Hamlet of Guy. There he would devote his time to carpentry work. Two workshops were soon erected. One for wood working with different saws and a lathe; the other, strictly for varnishing and storing the finished product. However, man proposes, but God disposes... One year later, on November 8, 1975, his wife Armande was called to her Eternal rest.

Lionel (Noël) is now left with three adolescents: Léon 15 years, Clement 12 years and Joanne 10 years old. His daughter Helen would care for the household until her marriage to Wally Reschny, which was slated for Easter Monday, April 19, 1976. Lionel is now looking for someone to take over the duties pertaining to the preparation of the wedding and looking after the family since Helen will be residing in Macklin, Saskatchewan. Having been contacted through recommendations, I accept to work for the month of April. Being that Clement and Joanne were to make their confirmation in May, I considered staying for another month. Finally, I accepted to extend my service till the end of June.

Oft time I would ask Lionel if he had another housekeeper in mind. He would reply: "Why should I look for another housekeeper when I already have one in the house". Then I'd remind him that this one was leaving at the end of June. Inevitably he would change the subject of conversation.

The Lord works in his own ways. He made me see great qualities in Lionel, such as the patience that he possessed and possibly the most striking fact that I never heard him swear. I commented on this one day and pointed out that, had I heard him use foul language, I definitely would not have stayed there. He only laughed and assured me that this should be the least of my worries. Communication was easy. To him nothing ever seemed complicated.

The beginning of June brought me an invitation to a nephew's wedding in Edmonton for July 4. Lionel accepted to be my escort. A few days later, he received an invitation to his cousin's wedding anniversary in Saskatchewan. Now came the question – would I accept to be his escort? After numerous nights of reflection and

prayer, I considered speaking to Father Lucien Lafontaine who encouraged us to get married. Our nuptial vows were blessed, June 30, 1976.

I Cécile Côté was born on January 6, 1919, in Falher, Alberta. My parents, Adrien Côté and Béatrice Tremblay, along with their parents, were pioneers of the District. On December 23, 1941, I married Joseph Guénette of the Lac Magloire area. In 1948 we bought 25 acres of land adjacent to the town of Falher, north-west of the railroad track. There we raised our eight children. In 1968, we moved to Calgary, Alberta. My husband passed away in Calgary on May 1, 1971. In 1975 I returned to Falher where I worked as cook at Villa Beauséjour from May 1 – January 1, 1976.

Having hurt my back and now unemployed brought on the recommendation that I might be in a position to give a hand at the preparation for Helen Drouin's wedding.

I have fond memories of Lionel, his family and relatives as well as of the numerous friends whom I have encountered during my short stay in Guy.

Lionel (Noël) Drouin: n. 25-12-1919

m. 19-10-1944

d. 01-08-1977

Armande Cécile Charest: n. 11-11-1925

d. 08-11-1975

CHILDREN:

1- Lorraine: n. 13-11-1945

m. 05-10-1968

Larry Matlock: n. 04-01-1945

d. -05-1984

a) Stéphanie: n. 17-03-1971

They live in Vancouver, B.C.

2- Lorette: n. 18-05-1947

m. 22-11-1965

Juergen Maennchen: n. 04-04-1944

a) Sylvia: n. 03-02-1967

m. 16-02-1985

Thomas Morton: n. 21-12-1964

i) Justin: n. 19-05-1986

They live in Islay, Alberta

b) Markus: n. 27-08-1970

c) Michael: n. 04-12-1971

They live in Innisfail, Alberta.

3- Blanche: n. 15-05-1949

m. 23-12-1970

Ernest Kruggel: n. 05-02-1945

a) Vincent: n. 18-05-1972

b) Devon: n. 21-02-1974

They live in Hay River, N.W.T.

4- Jacqueline: n. 10-02-1951

m. 30-06-1973

Alexander Reschny: n. 28-03-1949

a) Brent: n. 24-12-1974

b) Quentin: n. 27-03-1976

c) Jamie: n. 20-06-1978

d) Dion: n. 25-05-1982

They live in Unity, Saskatchewan

5- Helen: n. 26-10-1952 m. 19-04-1976

Waldemar Reschny: n. 23-01-1943

a) Ryan: 16-02-1978 (adopted).

b) Cyril: n. 26-11-1979 (adopted).

c) Stewart: n. 23-11-1980

d) Melissa: n. 06-12-1981

They live in Evesham, Saskatchewan

6- André: n. 13-07-1954

He lives in Airdrie, Alberta

7- Noëlla: n. 23-07-1956

m. 21-05-1975

Donald Paul: n. 13-07-1956

a) Tanya: n. 10-06-1976

b) Ryan: n. 12-08-1979

c) Riley: n. 04-12-1985

They live in Olds, ALberta.

8- Réjeanne: n. 30-09-1958

m. 20-12-1975

Edward Doucet: n. 03-08-1956

a) Jennifer: n. 23-06-1976

b) Steven: n. 07-12-1978

c) Robert: n. 23-08-1981

d) Mélanie: n. 21-03-1983

They live in Clairmont, Alberta

9- Léon: n. 19-04-1960

m. 06-11-1982

Bibianne Doucet: n. 28-09-1961

a) Randy: n. 01-09-1984

They live in Elk Point, Alberta

10- Clément: n. 27-05-1963

m. 12-10-1985

Jacqueline Sénécal: n. 15-04-1964

They live in St-Pierre-Joly, Manitoba.

11- Joanne: n. 27-02-1965

She lives in Red Deer, Alberta.

* * *

Johnny Charest et sa femme avec leur famille de neuf enfants, étaient parmi les pionniers qui en 1927-28 et 29 vinrent s'installer à Forestview, Alberta.

En 1941, Joseph Drouin et sa famille vinrent de Mankota, Saskatchewan, eux aussi pour s'installer au Royaume de la Rivière La Paix.

Le 19 octobre 1944, Lionel (Noël) fils de Joseph et Evelina Drouin, épouse Armande fille de Johnny et Adélaïde Charest. A leur tour ils s'installent sur une ferme au sud est de Guy où ils élèveront leurs onze enfants.

Après avoir été fermier durant trente ans, ils décident de mener une vie moins mouvementée au village de Guy. Lionel aime travailler le bois

et veut s'occuper de ce métier. Mais le Seigneur veut autre chose et le 8 novembre 1975, il lui enlève sa compagne de trente et un ans.

Ayant trois adolescents à la maison, il a besoin d'aide. Le 30 juin 1976, il épouse Cécile Guénette. Elle aussi est veuve depuis déjà cinq ans. Elle est femme d'expérience, puisqu'elle est devenue veuve ayant encore quatre adolescents à la maison, ainsi que les biens à gérer. Chose qui n'est pas facile! Une seconde occasion lui est offerte pour démontrer cette expérience.

Le premier août 1977, après treize mois de mariage Lionel à son tour est appelé à son repos Éternel.

La vie doit continuer. Cécile demeure à l'emplacement avec les trois jeunes. Six mois passent et Léon a fini sa douzième année d'école. Il trouve de l'emploi au moulin à scie, à High Prairie. N'ayant que Clément et Joanne à la maison, Cécile croit que ce serait mieux pour ces deux jeunes de demeurer avec leurs soeurs. Elle offre à vendre l'emplacement aux enfants de Lionel et Armande, puis à la parenté. Elle appelle une réunion des enfants pour la longue fin de semaine du mois d'août. Les biens sont partagés par la famille. Clément résidera chez sa soeur Jacqueline et Joanne résidera chez sa soeur Réjeanne.

C'est donc le premier décembre 1978 que les nouveaux propriétaires prendront possession de la maison. Cécile s'assure qu'au cimetière les pierres tombales de Lionel et Armande sont très bien placées et marquées.

Deux ans et demi plus tard elle épouse M. Wilfrid Guénette; parent de cinq générations en arrière avec son premier mari Joseph Guénette. Elle a repris le nom de Guénette; nom dont elle est fière et avec lequel elle désire partir.

DROUIN, PAUL & COTE, VERONIQUE

par Véronique

Agé de 15 ans, Henri Paul ainsi que son père partirent de Québec à la fin de l'été 1941. Un groupe de dix-sept faisait partie de ce voyage.

M. Noé, le propriétaire d'un camion avait bâti une "caboose" sur la boîte du camion. Pour la somme de 25,00 \$ par tête, il devait amener tout le monde à destination, l'Alberta; les plus fortunés dormaient sur le plancher. Tous devaient voir à leur subsistance.

Mme Noé n'a pas voulu embarquer sur le bateau pour traverser le Lac Supérieur. Elle prit le train et ils durent attendre qu'elle arrive avant de repartir. A Winnipeg, ils brûlèrent le moteur du camion; il a fallu attendre trois jours avant de se remettre en marche.



R.1 Henri-Paul, Victoria, Henri-Louis, Véronique. R.2 Daniel, Annette, Mario, Gabrielle, Beverly Huber, Eveline, Patricia, Glen Bjorklund.

Quand Mme Noé a vu les bordes de moustiques sur le perron de l'église de Guy, elle n'en croyait pas ses yeux. Le lendemain matin ils reprirent le chemin vers Montréal. Le voyage avait duré trois semaines. Joseph Drouin et Henri-Paul seraient retournés s'ils avaient eu l'argent, mais avec les années ils n'ont pas regretté, quoiqu'il ait fallu travailler fort pour rester. Ils sont demeurés chez Maurice Desbarrais en attendant les autres membres de la famille, ils mangèrent du lièvre trois fois par jour. Ils passèrent l'hiver chez Ernest Gosselin avec les autres nouveaux venus.

Henri-Paul eut son premier terrain SW ¼ 12-75-20 en 1944, terrain revendu pour la somme de 500,00 \$ à son frère Philippe qui venait d'arriver du Québec; le terrain avait treize acres en culture.

Marié en 1952 à Véronique Côté de Vergennes, Vermont, nous avons élevé six enfants. Nous avons acheté le magasin de John Wawrzonek à Guy en février 1968 et avons opéré sous le nom de Paul Grocery and Hardware. On se souvient des amis des années 1968 à 1976.

Pendant une couple d'années nous avons eu un moulin à scie connu sous le nom de Drouin Sawmill.

Nous avons pris notre retraite en 1984 et demeurons présentement à McLennan.

Henri-Paul Drouin: n. 27-04-1928 m. 22-11-1952

Véronique Côté: n. 10-04-1926

ENFANTS:

1- Eveline: n. 04-11-1953 m. 20-11-1976

Beverly Huber: n. 06-06-1946

- a) *Josbua*: n. 04-04-1983
 b) *Jordan*: n. 05-07-1984
 2- *Henri-Louis*: n. 22-12-1954 m. 21-03-1980 d. 13-03-1982
Victoire Maure: n. 21-03-1960
 a) *Nicholas*: n. 03-02-1982
 3- *Daniel*: n. 19-12-1955 m. 22-09-1979
Annette Bastien: n. 30-01-1961
(voir Drouin, Daniel)
 4- *Patricia*: n. 29-12-1957 m. 28-04-1978
Glen Bjorklund: n.
Ils ont trois enfants: Conrad, Barry et Kevin.
 5- *Marie-France*: n. 05-02-1960 d. 05-02-1960
 6- *Mario*: n. 20-08-1961 m. 15-05-1982
Eileen McGregor: n. 22-12-1960
 a) *Paul*: n. 19-02-1984
 b) *Candice*: n. 23-01-1986
 7- *Gabrielle*: n. 15-12-1963

* * *

At the age of fifteen, Henri-Paul and his father started from Québec at the end of the summer 1941. A group of seventeen took part in the trip.

Mr. Noé, owner of a truck had built a caboose on the box of the truck. For a sum of \$ 25,00 each, he was to bring everyone to destination, Alberta. The lucky ones got to sleep on the floor. Each one was responsible for his own subsistence.

Mrs. Noé did not want to cross Lake Superior by boat. She took the train and they had to wait for her arrival to resume the trip. In Winnipeg they burned the motor; they had to wait three days to get back on the road.

When Mrs. Noé saw the hordes of mosquitos on the porch of the church of Guy, she couldn't believe her eyes. The next morning they set out for Montréal. The trip had lasted three weeks. Joseph Drouin and Henri-Paul would have gone back if they would have had the money but with the years they did not regret this even though they had to work hard. They stayed with Maurice Desharnais while waiting for the other members of the family. They ate rabbit three times a day. They stayed with Ernest Gosselin during the winter along with the new settlers.

Henri-Paul had his first land in 1944 which he sold to his brother, Philippe for \$ 500,00 when he arrived from Québec. Thirteen acres were ready for cultivation.

Married in 1952 to Véronique Côté, we raised a family of six. John Wawrzonek's store was bought in February 1968 and operated under the name of Paul Grocery and Hardware.

During a couple of years we owned a sawmill under the name of Drouin Sawmill. We retired in 1984 and are now residing in McLennan.

DROUIN, PHILIPPE & CLOUTIER, JEANNE D'ARC

by Berthe Cloutier

Louis Philippe Drouin, son of Joseph and Dora Hebert, was born at Ste. Marie, Beauce, P.Q. He came to Alberta to join his brother, Hervé, who had come a few years previously. Philippe took land five miles northwest of Guy. He opened these quarters mostly by axe and engaged in mixed farming. During the first years of operation he worked in partnership with his brother-in-law, Roland Cloutier, sharing time as well as machinery. For seven years he was also employed by the Government for road maintenance; the grader being pulled by horses. It was a dusty, tiring job involving long hours plus looking after the horses once the day's work was done.



R.1 Juliette, Denise, Germaine. R.2 Maurice, Philippe, Jeanne Drouin.

In the fall of 1939 Philippe married Jeanne D'Arc Cloutier, daughter of Aimé Cloutier and Marie Anne Belanger. Their marriage was blessed by Rev. Paul Gagnon in the Guy church.

The couple had four children who attended Alexandre School and later Langlois school.
 Philippe Drouin; n.19-08-1917 m.07-11-1939 d.26-06-1961
 Jeanne D'Arc Cloutier; n.26-11-1920 d.13-08-1978

CHILDREN:

1. Maurice; n.22-07-1942 m.18-09-1966
 Sharon McKay; n.14-01-1945. They have four children; Michelle Renée, Marc and Angeline.

2. Germaine; n.14-07-1945 m.25-10-1963
Frank Lavoie; n.29-04-1939. they have two boys; Roger and Norman.
3. Juliette; n.04-10-1946 m.10-07-1964
Charles Dechambre. They have two boys; Edward (d.16-06-1968), and John.
4. Denise; n.26-11-1948 m.
Howard Gray. They have two children; Blaine and Jay.

* * *

Louis Philippe, fils de Joseph Drouin et de Dora Hébert, est né à Ste-Marie de Beauce, P.Q. Il vint en Alberta rejoindre son frère Hervé qui était venu quelques années auparavant.

Philippe prit un terrain à cinq milles au nord-ouest de Guy. Il le défricha à la hache et fit de la culture mixte. Pendant sept ans, il fut à l'emploi du gouvernement pour l'entretien des chemins, ce qui se faisait avec les chevaux. C'était un travail épuisant; il fallait travailler de longues heures et voir aux chevaux après la journée de travail.

A l'automne de 1939, Philippe épousa Jeanne d'Arc Cloutier, fille d'Aimé Cloutier et de Marie Anne Bélanger. Leur mariage fut béni par l'abbé Paul Gagnon à l'église de Guy. Ils eurent quatre enfants qui fréquentèrent l'école Alexandre, et plus tard l'école Langlois.

DUBOIS, ROLAND

par Gilberte Lemay

Le jeune Roland, âgé de 18 ou 19 ans, est venu à Guy, en auto avec l'Abbé Mallet. Il était le chauffeur car l'Abbé Mallet ne conduisait pas lui-même. C'est le 30 janvier 1931 qu'ils partirent de Lafond en route pour la région de Rivière La Paix.

En arrivant ils ont demeurés à Donnelly, chez Mme Gravel afin d'étudier la situation.

Le 12 février tous deux se rendirent au bureau des terres et pour le coût de 21,00 \$ ils prennent chacun un 'homestead' à 12 milles au sud de Donnelly, où l'Abbé Mallet devait ouvrir une nouvelle Mission.

Roland prit le SW 1-76-21 et l'Abbé Mallet prit le NW 36-75-21.

Le 20 de ce même mois, Roland conduisait l'Abbé Mallet, accompagné de l'Abbé Roy, alors curé de Donnelly, pour visiter le terrain près de la Little Smoky. Et le samedi 21 février il conduisait l'Abbé Mallet chez Willie Brulotte pour y célébrer la sainte messe le lendemain. On est parti de Donnelly à 4h P.M. et on arrivait chez M. Brulotte à 5h25 P.M.. Le voyage de 16 milles a

donc pris une heure et demie. Ceci explique la condition des chemins de ce temps là.

Durant son séjour à Guy il demeurerait au presbytère avec l'Abbé Mallet. Aussi il est écrit qu'il est allé à la chasse avec son ami Antoine Brulotte. Ils y passèrent toute une semaine et ne tuèrent que le temps.

Roland demeura à peu près deux ans avec l'Abbé Mallet.

* * *

When Roland was 18 or 19 he came to Guy by car as Father Mallet's chauffeur. They left Lafond, AB on January 30, 1931.

Upon their arrival they stayed at Mrs. Gravel's place in Donnelly while studying the situation. On February 12, they went to the Lands office and for \$21.00 they each took a homestead twelve miles south of Donnelly where Reverend Mallet was to open a new parish.

On the 20th, Roland drove Reverend Mallet and Reverend Roy, then pastor of Donnelly to visit the land filed upon near the Smoky River. On Saturday, February 21, he drove Reverend Mallet to Willie Brulotte's to celebrate Holy Mass the next day. "We leave Donnelly at 4:00 p.m. and arrive at Mr. Brulotte's at 5:25 p.m.," he writes. A distance of sixteen miles took an hour and a half of travel. Such were the road conditions.

During his two years stay in Guy he lived at the rectory with Reverend Mallet.

During the summer he enjoyed going to family picnics on the banks of the Smoky River with Reverend Mallet.

DUGUAY, GERARD & PREVOST, LEDA

raconté par Leda à Gisèle Duguay

Gérard fils de Elie Duguay et Emma Lord, est né le 13 août 1904. Alors qu'il travaillait comme ouvrier dans les mines d'or en Abitibi, il rencontra Leda Prévost, fille d'Alexis Prévost et de Cédulie Bilodeau. Il épousa Leda le 29 décembre 1934, à St-Félix d'Alquier, Abitibi.

C'est là que Marcel et Jean-Paul sont nés. Ayant entendu dire par le curé St-Pierre que la région Rivière La Paix avait du bon terrain facile à défricher, Gérard et Leda décident de venir dans l'ouest. Ils arrivent par train le 4 septembre 1942 à Donnelly.

De là ils se rendent à Guy où Leda et les garçons passent l'hiver avec Rose Sniezek pendant que Michael Sniezek et Gérard vont travailler à Peace River pour construire des casernes militaires pour l'armée. Au printemps, la famille déménage sur le N¹/₂ 36-74-20 et ils se



R.1 Jean Paul, Rollande, Marcel. R.2 Gérard et Léda Duguay.

construisent une habitation en bois rond d'épinettes.

Gérard se trouve du travail comme ouvrier afin de faire défricher du terrain pour la culture. En 1946 ils construisent une maison dans laquelle ils ont demeuré pendant 26 ans.

Le 20 mai 1949 un feu de forêt qui faisait rage au sud de la rivière Smoky passe par-dessus la rivière et envahit le bois. La famille Duguay s'est échappée du feu avec la voiture tirée par le tracteur. Léda et les enfants se sont couchés au fond de la voiture pour pouvoir respirer car la fumée était épaisse. Ils ont passé la nuit chez un voisin et sont revenus le lendemain pour trouver la maison intacte même si l'intérieur était recouvert de cendre. Ils avaient perdu dans le feu une grainerie, les clôtures, les attelages de chevaux et le poulailler avec une douzaine de couvées sur le point de clore.

Avec les années, le terrain en culture s'agrandissant toujours, il a fallu acheter des machines agricoles pour faire les semences et les récoltes.

Léda aimait le jardinage et s'occupait de récolter et mettre en conserve fruits et légumes pour sa famille. Elle faisait aussi l'élevage des poules et des dindes qui fournissaient la viande et avec la vache pour le lait on mangeait très bien.

En 1972 Gérard et Léda prennent leur retraite à Falher. Leur terre appartient maintenant à Jules Aubin. Gérard est décédé le 9 mars 1978 et il est inhumé au cimetière de Falher. Léda vit toujours dans sa demeure à Falher.

Gérard Duguay: n. 13-08-1904 m. 29-12-1934 d. 09-03-1978

Léda Prévost: n. 06-06-1913

ENFANTS:

1- Marcel: n. 18-07-1936 (Voir Duguay, Marcel)

2- Jean-Paul: n. 25-09-1937 (Voir Duguay, Jean-Paul)

3- Rollande: n. 01-05-1943 (voir Henri Lessard)

* * *

As a young man, Gérard worked in the gold mines of Abitibi. It was at this time that he met and married Léda. Marcel and Jean-Paul were born there. Upon hearing Father St-Pierre talk about the Peace River region, the couple decided to come out west. They arrived by train September 4, 1942 in Donnelly.

From there they travelled to Guy where Leda and the boys spent the winter with Rose Sniezek while Michael Sniezek and Gérard worked at building military quarters in Peace River. In the spring, the family moved on the land and they built a spruce cabin.

Gérard found work as a carpenter in order to open new land. In 1946 they built a house in which they lived for 26 years.

On May 20, 1949 a forest fire raged south of the river. Whipped by the wind it jumped to the northern bank. The Duguay family escaped by wagon pulled by a tractor. Leda and the children crouched in the bottom of the wagon in order to be able to breathe; there was heavy smoke. They spent the night at a neighbor's and returned the next day to find their home intact but the interior covered with ashes. They lost a granary, fences, harnesses and the chicken coop with a dozen sittings of turkey eggs ready to hatch.

Through the years cultivated land increased and new machinery had to be bought.

Leda liked to garden and can fruits and vegetables. She would raise chicken and turkeys for meat and with a cow for milk, meals were complete.

In 1972, Gérard and Leda retired in Falher.

DUGUAY, JEAN-PAUL

par Gisèle Duguay

Jean-Paul est né à St-Félix d'Aquier, Abitibi, P.Q., fils de Gérard et de Léda Prévost. A l'âge de cinq ans il arrive à Guy avec sa famille.

Il a fait ses études à la Mission St-Augustin de Peace River, à l'école Whiteland, à l'école Langlois à Guy (demeurant au couvent) et à River Valley où il complète sa huitième année.



Jean Paul Duguay, Rollande Lessard, Léda & Marcel Duguay.

Il se met à travailler pour la compagnie sismique Western Geophysical.

En 1982 il achète les terrains SE 4-75-19 W5 et NW 4-75-19 W5. Il y construit une maison et cultive son terrain. Il travaille toujours pour Western Geophysical pendant l'hiver.

Jean-Paul Duguay: n. 25-09-1937

* * *

At the age of five, Jean-Paul arrived at Guy with his family.

He went to school at St-Augustin Mission in Peace River, at Whiteland school, at Langlois school in Guy (staying at the convent) and at River Valley where he completed grade eight.

He began working for the Western Geophysical seismic company for which he continues to work during the winter months.

In 1982 he bought two quarters of land which he farms.

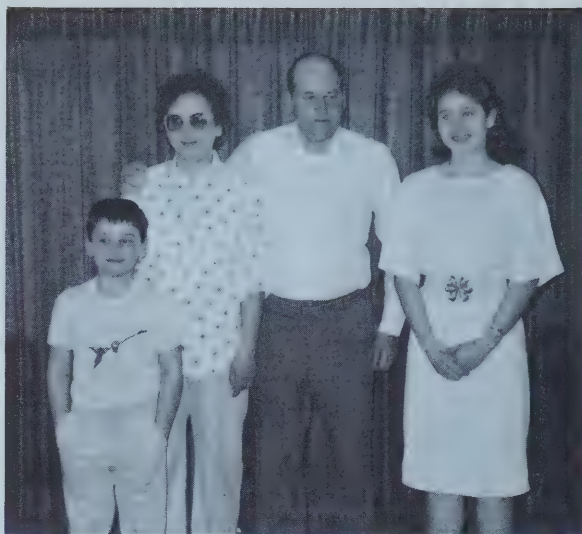
DUGUAY, MARCEL & HEBERT, GISELE

par Gisèle Duguay

Marcel naquit à St-Félix d'Aquier, Abitibi, P.Q. fils de Gérard et Léda Prévost. Il arriva à Guy avec ses parents à l'âge de six ans.

Il fréquenta la mission St-Augustin de Peace River, l'école de Whiteland, l'école Langlois alors qu'il demeurait au couvent de Guy et l'école River Valley où il compléta sa neuvième année.

Il travailla pour Park Brothers de Grande



Marc, Gisèle, Marcel et Anne Duguay.

Prairie comme arpenteur pendant la construction des chemins et ensuite chez Falher Electric.

En 1967, il épousa Gisèle Hébert, fille de Prosper et Madeleine Brochu. Elle enseignait à Girouxville après avoir complété deux années d'études à l'Université de l'Alberta.

Après notre mariage nous avons fait notre chez-nous à Guy où j'ai enseigné durant six ans à l'école Langlois pendant que Marcel faisait son apprentissage comme électricien chez Hector's Electric de Falher et qu'il suivait des cours à N.A.I.T.

En 1973 nous déménageons à Valleyview où Marcel était employé par Peace Pipe Line. Il travaille toujours pour cette compagnie.

En 1980 nous déménageons sur la terre SW 17-73-21 W5 achetée d'Henri Lessard. Nos enfants vont à l'école de Donnelly et j'enseigne comme suppléante à Valleyview.

Marcel Duguay: n. 18-07-1936 m. 22-07-1967

Gisèle Hébert: n. 26-04-1945

ENFANTS:

1- Anne: n. 30-06-1971

2- Marc: n. 23-08-1977

* * *

At the age of six, Marcel Duguay arrived in Guy with his family.

He attended school at St-Augustin Mission in Peace River, Whiteland school, Langlois school (staying at the convent) and River Valley school where he completed his grade nine.

He worked for Park Brothers of Grande Prairie as surveyor for road constructions and then at Hector's Falher Electric.

In 1967, he married Gisèle Hebert who was teaching in Girouxville after completing two years of study at the University of Alberta.

After our marriage we lived in Guy where I taught for six years at Langlois school while Marcel was apprenticing as electrician at Hector's Electric of Falher and following courses at N.A.I.T.

In 1973 we moved to Valleyview where Marcel works for Peace Pine Line even to this day.

In 1980 we moved onto our land bought from Henri Lessard. Our children attend Donnelly School and I do substitute teaching in Valleyview.

DUPUIS, BERT

by Françoise Dechief

Mr. Bert Dupuis lived in this area for a few years making his home with Mr. Lawrence Dwyer. He ran a blacksmith shop for a few years, then moved to McLennan and did some more blacksmithing.

* * *

M. Bert Dupuis a vécu dans cette région pour quelques années avec M. Lawrence Dwyer. Il opéra une boutique de forge pour un temps et déménagea à McLennan où il pratiqua son métier.

DUPUIS, EDWARD & RICKARD, LILIAN

as told to Rose de Lima Lambert by Lilian

Edward was born in St-Lazare, Manitoba, on February 28, 1896. His father was also Edward and his mother was Rose Dupuis from Granby, Québec. From Manitoba, the family moved to Goodeve, Saskatchewan, where they farmed for a while, then moved to Domremy. That is where both parents were called to their eternal rest.

In 1918, Edward Junior was called to join the army. He was stationed in Regina and Moose Jaw. Being the only son at home, and parents needing him, he was discharged from the army and returned home before having to go overseas.

Edward went back to farm in Goodeve. He married Martha McDougall, but unfortunately he lost his wife when his son Leonard was only nine months old.

He then met Lilian Rickard. On April 22, 1925 they were married. They lived in Goodeve until April 14, 1928, when they moved west of Guy, on a farm he had bought from Sam McBride. He cultivated this land for one year, then traded it with Fred Vowden's as this one had a good house, which was needed for the family. They



R.1 Lily and Edward Dupuis. R.2 Benny, Judy, Robert, Eleonor, Rose, Emile, Leonard, Archie, missing August (Jack), Elmer.

remained on this land until 1954, where they raised a family of ten children. This is the year they moved to High Prairie, and almost immediately, their son Benny, fifteen years old, was struck by polio. He spent two and one half years in the University Hospital in Edmonton. He came back in a wheelchair, paralyzed from his waist down. He is doing very well, as he has a good business of his own, and manages very well from his wheelchair.

The children received their education mostly in Guy. First going to Jason, then to Whiteland, where they had to travel three miles, on roads that were mostly trails. They then went to Edgehill which was a lot closer. Then when schools were centralized, they went to the Langlois School, which was one and a half miles away. When they moved to High Prairie, there were still three children going to school.

Lilian worked in the hospital in High Prairie, mostly in the laundry department for nineteen years. Her husband passed away on January 25, 1986, and Lilian still lives in High Prairie. The family is composed as follows:

Edward Dupuis: n. 28-02-1896

1m: Martha McDougall

1- Leonard: n. 05-02-1923

2m: 22-04-1925 with Lilian Rickard

CHILDREN:

2- Eleonor: n. 23-11-1925

m.

•Eugène Plante

9 children, live in Grande Prairie.

3- Jack: n. 15-08-1927

m.

Léona Giroux:

6 children, live in McLennan.

4- Emile: n. 12-11-1930

m.

Florence Lefevre

5 children, live in Nampa

- 5- Rose: n. 24-08-1933
m.
Gaston Plante
5 children, live in High Prairie.
- 6- Elmer: n. 07-06-1936
m.
Violet Numa
7 children, live in Leduc
- 7- Judy: n. 01-07-1938
m.
Roger Loiseau
9 children, live in Falher.
- 8- Benny: 17-08-1939
m.
Audry Dumont
2 children, live in Calmar.
- 9- Archie: n. 10-11-1941
m.
Phyllis Krugger
3 children live in High Prairie
- 10- Robert: n. 13-01-1944
m.
D. Beaudry
Live in High Prairie.

* * *

En 1918, Edward était conscrit dans l'armée. Il fut permuté à Régina puis à Moose Jaw. Etant le seul fils, il fut libéré de l'armée et revint à la maison pour aider ses parents, avant de se rendre outre-mer. Edward retourna sur la ferme à Goodeve, Sask. Il épousa Martha McDougall. Elle mourut alors que leur fils Leonard n'avait que neuf mois.

Le 22 avril 1925, il épousait Lilian Rickard. Ils quittèrent Goodeve le 14 avril 1928 et vinrent s'établir à l'ouest de Guy sur une terre qu'il avait achetée de Sam McBride. Il y demeura un an et de là échangea cette terre avec celle de Fred Vowden où il y avait une bonne maison dans laquelle la famille pouvait habiter. Ils élevèrent dix enfants sur cette terre et la quittèrent en 1954. De là ils déménagèrent à High Prairie. Si tôt après leur fils de 15 ans, Benny fut frappé par la polio. Il passa un an et demi à l'hôpital de l'Université à Edmonton. Paralysé de la taille aux pieds, il revint chez lui en chaise roulante. De sa chaise roulante il dirige sa propre entreprise et réussit très bien en affaire. Les enfants firent leurs études surtout à Guy aux écoles de campagne et quand la famille déménagea à High Prairie, trois des enfants étaient encore aux études.

Lilian travailla à la buanderie de l'hôpital à High Prairie pendant dix-neuf ans. Son mari

est mort le 25 janvier 1986 et Lilian demeure toujours à High Prairie.

DUPUIS, LEONARD

by

Léonard son of Edward Dupuis and Bertha McDougall was born 05-02-1923 in Wakaw, Saskatchewan.

In 1928 he moved with the family to the Guy area. He went to Jason school and Whiteland. He then worked for Jos Gagnon for years before joining the Canadian Army in 1942. He saw combat in Continental Europe having walked from southern France to northern Holland while



Bertha and Edward Dupuis.



Leonard Dupuis, 3 years old.

engaged in combat; he was wounded once by a bullet and shrapnel one morning, was hospitalized in England for 21 days and sent back to the front in the infantry. He got his honorable discharge at the end of the war on January 10, 1946.

He came back to Guy and started to farm on five quarters, eight miles east and four miles south of Guy, and kept at it for 19 years. Due to ill health he sold the land and worked on construction in Edmonton for 13 ½ years for the same company, Thiele Drywall.

Léonard is a keen hunter. Every fall, except one since the Army days, he takes off on a hunting expedition mostly in the Whitemud area, catching his quota – of moose and deer.

His favorite pastime is fishing whether it's ice fishing or angling.

For the last four years he has been semi-retired and lives in Calmar, Alberta.

* * *

Né en Saskatchewan en 1923, Léonard arrive dans la région de Guy avec sa famille en 1928. Il fit ses études aux écoles de campagne, puis il travailla pour Jos Gagnon pendant plusieurs années. Il s'engagea dans l'armée en 1942. Il connut la guerre en Europe, ayant marché du sud de la France jusqu'au nord de la Hollande, tout en combattant. Il fut blessé par une balle, et un obus un beau matin, et fut hospitalisé en Angleterre pendant vingt et un jours, puis renvoyé au front avec l'infanterie. Après la guerre, il fut démobilisé honorablement.

Il revint ensuite à Guy puis s'occupa à cultiver cinq quarts de section à huit milles à l'est et quatre milles au sud, et y demeura pendant dix-neuf ans.

Une mauvaise santé le poussa à vendre sa terre puis il travailla dans la construction pour les même compagnies à Edmonton pendant treize ans et demi.

Léonard est un chasseur enthousiaste. A presque tous les automnes il vient en excursion de chasse dans la région de Whitemud, abattant sa quote-part d'orignal et de chevreuil. Son passe-temps favori est encore la pêche!

Depuis les quatre dernières années, il est à demi retiré et vit à Calmar en Alberta.

DUPUY, GEORGE & THOMAS, EMMA

by Elsa

George and Emma Dupuy left their native land, France, in 1913; their destination: St. Albert, Alberta. They had four children at the time; Madeline, George, Odette and Robert. In Canada,

two more children were born; Moise and Suzanne. In 1920, the family moved to take up homesteading in the Bezanson district four miles north of the Bezanson store. They farmed there until 1925 when they moved to the Guy district; NW 33-21-76-W5.

Emma passed away in 1934 and George in 1970. They had six children:

1. Madeline: (deceased) married Philibert Lacoursiere. They had four children: Paul (deceased), Pauline (Therrien), Jeannine (Pigeon) and Emile.

2. George: (deceased) married Laurence Ethier. They had three children: Allen, Vivian, and Gary.

3. Odette: married Ken Merchant. Their children are: Camilla (Doyle), Francis (Nelson) and Clifford.

4. Robert: farmed in the Guy district until 1965. He now lives in High Prairie.

5. Moise: (deceased) married Elsa DeBaere. They raised five children: Dianne (Gagnon), Denis, Leona (Aubin), Joyce (Davis), and Norman.

6. Suzanne: (deceased) married Hormidas Fortier. They had seven children: Georgette, Florence, Paulette, Rene (deceased), Roger, Yvette and Cecile.

* * *

George et Emma Dupuy ont quitté leur pays natal, la France, en 1913 pour venir habiter à St. Albert. A ce temps-là ils avaient quatre enfants. Deux autres enfants devaient naître au Canada.

En 1920, la famille s'établit sur un "homestead" à Bezanson. Elle vint s'établir dans la région de Guy en 1925.

Emma mourut en 1934 et George en 1970.

DUPUY, MOISE & DEBAERE, ELSA

by Elsa

When Moise Dupuy was fifteen years old and attending "North Ballater" school, he decided he had enough "schooling" and went to work, stooking and working on threshing crews.

As soon as he was old enough Moise filed on a homestead (NW ¼-6-76-21-W5th) only a mile away from his brother Robert's homestead.

Their parents, George and Emma Dupuy, had immigrated from France in 1913 with four children. Two more were born in Canada.

Moise and Bob were, at the time, living on the family farm with their mother, brother George, and sisters Odette and Suzanne. Another sister, Madelaine, was already married.

This was during the "depression" years of



Norman, Joyce, Leona, Dianne, Denis.

the 30s so they had quite a struggle finding work, working for very little more than room and board sometimes. They would grub with axes to clear land and break it in their spare time.

In 1934, Moïse and Bob built a "squared log" house on Bob's homestead and moved there as their brother George had married and their mother had passed away by then. Younger sister Suzanne was also married by then, and Odette moved with Moïse and Bob until she got married. In the winter time they would shoot squirrels and coyotes and sell the pelts for a little extra money; make firewood, etc...

In the spring of 1942 Moïse got his "call" and had to do his basic training for the army in Grande Prairie.

He was then transferred to Calgary in the "reserve army". It was at that time in December 1942 that he married Elsa De Baere.

He was later transferred to Halifax where he was stationed when their first daughter Dianne was born.

He remained in the army until he was discharged in 1945 when the W.W. II ended, coming home only on "leaves". They would give out "Harvest Leaves" in the fall to those soldiers who were farmers.

Bob farmed the land during his absence.

After his discharge from the army Moïse acquired one half section of land through the V.L.A. He hired a "cat" and brush cutter to clear the land now. At about this time Bob also bought 1/2 section of land which had belonged to another early settler, Léon Meyus. Things had really picked up by then grain and alfalfa seed were a good

price so they were able to buy bigger and better farm machinery. The two brothers farmed together until 1966.

They lived at Bob's place then moved the "squared log" house to Moïse's homestead. It took six tractors to move it across the fields. The roads were not the best and too narrow then. In 1947 son Denis was born to Moïse and Elsa.



R.1 Dwayne Dupuy. R.2 Charles De Baere, Elsa Dupuy. R.3 Denis Dupuy. (4 generations)

When his brother George and family moved to Edmonton, Moïse bought 1/2 section of land from him and then built a "frame house" and moved on SE 1/4 18-76-21-W. In 1966 Bob sold to Moïse his three quarters and he moved to Kelowna where he lived for three years. He is presently living in High Prairie.

Elsa and Moïse had two more daughters Léona and Joyce.

They kept on farming until they sold out in 1972 to "Allarco Farms".

In 1969 another son Norman was born.

In 1974 we moved to Falher, Moïse worked part time at the M.D. of Smoky River.

I (Elsa) started working at the Villa Beauséjour when it opened in 1974.

Moïse passed away in 1978.

Wife Elsa and son Norman are presently residing in Falher.

Moïse Dupuy: n. 16-08-1915

m. 14-12-1942

d. 11-10-1978

Elsa DeBaere: n. 07-09-1923

CHILDREN:

1- Dianne: n. 16-03-1944

m. 15-02-1963

Jim Gagnon

They have two children: Carol and David.

2- Denis: n. 09-06-1947

m. 19-02-1972

Verna Raymond

They have two children: Dwayne and Sheila.
Denis and family are farming north of Peace River.

3- Léona: n. 28-07-1953

m. 23-11-1968

Randy Aubin

They have 2 children: Lynnan and Beverly.
Léona lives in Grande Prairie and is employed by the R.C.M.P.

4- Joyce: n. 25-03-1957

m. 28-06-1980

Bob Davis

Joyce lives near Devon and is presently working at "Quantel" in Edmonton.

5- Norman: n. 11-10-1969

* * *

A quinze ans, alors qu'il était étudiant à l'école de North Ballater, Moïse Dupuy décida qu'il était assez instruit, et il se mit à travailler pour d'autres en rassemblant des gerbes et aux battages.

Au printemps 1942, Moïse fut mobilisé dans l'armée et fit son entraînement militaire à Grande Prairie.

Permuté à Calgary, dans la milice, il épousa Elsa DeBaere en décembre 1942. A la naissance de leur fille aînée, il était à Halifax. Il est venu chez lui en permission à l'automne pour faire ses récoltes. Son frère Bob s'occupait de la terre en son absence. Il fut démobilisé de l'armée en 1945.

Après la guerre Moïse acquit une demi-section de terre par l'intermédiaire de "Veterans Land Act." Il loua un tracteur à chenille et un "brush-cutter" pour défricher son terrain.

A peu près au même temps, Bob aussi avait acheté une demi-section de terre d'un ancien pionnier, Léon Meyus. Les affaires marchaient rondement. Le grain et la luzerne rapportaient de bons prix et alors ils purent se procurer des instruments plus efficaces. Les deux frères travaillèrent sur leur terre ensemble jusqu'en 1966.

Ils vivaient chez Bob, et plus tard, ils transportèrent la maison de bois équerri sur le "homestead" de Moïse. Il a fallu six tracteurs

pour traîner la maison à travers champs. Les routes étaient trop étroites et pas très bonnes.

En 1947, un fils Denis naissait chez Moïse et Elsa.

Quand son frère George et sa famille s'en allèrent demeurer à Edmonton, Moïse acheta sa demi-section et y construisit une bonne maison, où il alla demeurer.

En 1966, Bob vendit ses trois quarts de section à Moïse et s'en alla vivre à Kelowna pendant trois ans. Présentement, il vit à High Prairie.

Elsa et Moïse eurent deux autres filles, Léona et Joyce. Ils cultivèrent leur terre jusqu'en 1972, alors qu'ils la vendirent à Allarco Farms.

En 1969, un autre fils, Norman, naissait.

En 1974, nous déménagions à Falher où Moïse travailla à temps partiel pour la municipalité de Smoky River.

Je (Elsa) ai travaillé à la Villa Beauséjour dès 1974.

Moïse mourut en 1978. Son épouse Elsa et son fils Norman vivent tous deux à Falher.

DURKIN, HARVEY

par Noël Boisvert

Harvey est né en Ontario et vint dans cette région en 1927 et prit un "homestead." Il était un irlandais jovial qui s'entendait bien avec tout le monde. Après avoir lutté avec le défrichage pendant plusieurs années, il quitta la région en 1935 et ne revint plus.



Moïse Dupuy, Harvey Durkin, Ben Demers.

Harvey was born in Ontario and came to this region in 1927, and took SW ¼-16-76-21-W5. He was a joyful Irishman who got along well with everyone. After struggling with farming for many years, he left the area in 1935, and never came back.

ELLIS, JACK & GOSSELIN, YVETTE

by Keith Ellis

The Ellis family arrived in Guy in the winter of 1944. We came on the train from Calgary, and I remember being met in Donnelly by my uncle Art Gosselin with a team and cutter. It was bitterly cold, and I remember the hot bricks and robes he provided to keep us warm. I was only four years old, so my memories are rather vague.

My father bought a general store and flour shed. My mother, Yvette, helped in the store. We also had the Post Office for a while. Dad also hauled wheat for local farmers with his two-ton Mercury truck.

I remember playing with the Tokarz kids. Elizabeth was my first girlfriend. I think she liked the chocolate bars I sneaked for her out of the store. I started school in Guy. In grade two I remember another girlfriend, although I can't remember her name. I wrote her a note asking her to meet me outside at recess, and attempted to pass it to her, as she sat some distance away. I think the note was read and passed all over school before she got it, because when we met at recess the whole school spied on us, and we got teased. I think she received my first marriage proposal.

I remember my First Communion at the Roman Catholic Church, and a priest who had an interesting "snow-plane" which he used in the winter to visit his parishioners.

We moved from Guy in 1948 to Peace River where my parents operated an upholstery shop for many years. I married Valerie McConnell from Nampa and we presently reside in Westlock where I have a busy dental practice.

Cecil Wilburforce (Jack) Ellis; n.15-04-1901 d.12-10-1974

Yvette Adele M. Lumina Gosselin; n.16-12-1907 d.25-03-1984

CHILDREN:

1. Keith Emile Ellis; n.15-09-1940

Eva Valerie McConnell; n.03-02-1943

a) Bethany Anne; n.11-10-1960

b) Shawn Byron Keith; n.04-07-1963

c) Shannon Lynne; n.18-11-1964

La famille Ellis arriva à Guy à l'hiver de 1944. Nous sommes venus par train de Calgary et je me souviens que mon oncle Art Gosselin nous attendait avec un attelage et un "cutter". Il faisait très froid et je me souviens des briques chaudes et des couvertures pour nous garder au chaud. Je n'avais que quatre ans alors mes souvenirs sont plutôt vagues.

Mon père acheta un magasin Général et un entrepôt à farine. Ma mère, Yvette, aidait dans le magasin. Nous avons eu le bureau de poste pour un temps. Mon père charroyait aussi du blé pour les fermiers locaux avec son camion deux tonnes Mercury.

Nous déménageâmes de Guy à Peace River en 1948 où mes parents opérèrent une boutique de rembourrage pendant plusieurs années. J'épousai Valerie McConnell de Nampa et nous vivons présentement à Westlock où j'ai une clinique dentaire achalandée.

FORD, "JOCK" WM. H

by Charlotte Vowden

This quiet, well educated young man left Scotland, came to Canada arriving in Falher and from there made his way to Guy. A few days later he celebrated his twenty first birthday at Fred and Alice Vowdens' home, January 1928.

He later took up a homestead SW 3-76-21-W5 bringing 120 acres into cultivation through the years. He built a small tar-paper type building for his home and a far superior barn for his animals. His home, however humble was kept scrupulously clean, his animals ruined and spoiled by kindness.

Jock's closest neighbors were Fred Caron and family where he spent many happy hours discussing war and current politics, also joining in family games. He also frequented a couple of other bachelor dwellings and was known to take to all of them a loaf of warm home made bread on special occasions.

He slowly became interested in community affairs and was school secretary in 1937.

In 1939 World War II started, Jock enlisted, joining the Calgary Highlanders, took basic and advanced training in Canada. He was then transferred to England. While overseas he spent his leaves with the Vowden sisters. On one leave an air raid took place: a bomb hit the roof, went through and threw Jock out of bed uninjured. He went back to the front and was severely wounded in the left thigh at the landing of Dieppe. His recuperation was very lengthy, so he was transferred to an Edmonton Hospital. He always credited the new drug penicillin for sav-



Rita Caron, Jock Ford & Marie Caron.

ing his life. When discharged from hospital he continued his recovery at Vowdens' home in McLennan.

During this period there were frequent trips into Edmonton for medical reasons; while there on one trip he decided to fulfil a boyhood dream, and purchased a set of bagpipes, took some lessons from a piper, returning to McLennan as happy as could be. Practice makes perfect so Jock would don his kilt, socks and parade up and down Vowdens' sidewalk. As it was winter time the pipes would freeze up making an awful noise. After numerous such sessions Mrs. Vowden could no longer stand the ordeal, she quietly asked him to stop his practice sessions. The neighbors were also relieved. At this point Jock started thinking about returning to his farm, and the thought of raising pure bred Belgian horses replaced the bagpipe dream.

He returned to his farm in the spring and did purchase a team of brood mares, also a Doberman Pinscher dog named Vicki, which became the fear of any one who encountered her. Jock however was contented, tending his horses and seemed satisfied with life in general.

In 1949 he suddenly decided to move, and sold his farm to Fred Caron. He moved to Edgeworth, B.C. where he got a job as Ranger Tower

Watchman, a very difficult job for him with so much walking and climbing.

He married a nurse, Miss Ransbottom. After that nobody seems to have been in contact with him.

He passed away in 1974 or 1975 in Vernon, B.C.

* * *

Ce jeune homme instruit, tranquille, quitte l'Ecosse pour venir au Canada, arrivant à Falher et de là se rendit à Guy. Quelques jours après il fêta ses vingt et un ans en compagnie de Fred et Alice Vowden en janvier 1928.

Plus tard il prit un "homestead" et en vint à cultiver 120 acres. Il se bâtit une petite maison finie en papier goudron et une écurie bien supérieure pour ses animaux. Il tenait sa maison bien propre et déployait une grande bonté envers ses animaux.

Ses voisins les plus proches étaient Fred Caron et sa famille qu'il fréquentait régulièrement discutant de politique courante et mondiale et se joignant aux jeux de famille. Il aimait aussi voisiner quelques célibataires.

Graduellement il s'intéressa à la communauté et devint secrétaire d'école en 1937.

Quand la guerre de 1939 se déclare, Jock s'enrôla dans les rangs des Calgary Highlanders, s'entraînant au Canada. Il fut muté en Angleterre. Il passait ses congés avec les soeurs Vowden. Durant un de ses congés il y eut un raid aérien, une bombe a percé le toit, jetant Jock hors de son lit sans le blesser. Il retourna au front et fut blessé sérieusement à la cuisse gauche au débarquement de Dieppe. Sa convalescence fut très lente alors il fut transféré dans un hôpital à Edmonton. Il a toujours soutenu que sa guérison était due au nouveau médicament: la pénicilline. Sorti de l'hôpital il continua sa convalescence chez les Vowden à McLennan.

A ce temps, Jock songea à retourner à la ferme et à faire l'élevage de chevaux belges. Il retourna à la ferme au printemps et s'acheta un attelage de jument, aussi un chien Doberman Pinscher qui devint la terreur de ceux qui avaient à le rencontrer. Jock, lui, se plaisait avec ses chevaux et la vie en générale.

En 1949 il décida soudain de déménager et vendit sa ferme à Fred Caron. Il partit à Edgeworth, C.B. où il obtint une position comme surveillant d'une tour forestière, travail pénible pour lui à cause de nombreux déplacements.

Il épousa une infirmière, Mlle Ransbottom. Il serait décédé en 1974 ou 1975 à Vernon, C.B.

FORSEILLES, HUBERT & CARDINAL, JEAN

by Hubert

My parents, Victor and Marie Forseilles, left St. Louis, Saskatchewan, in the summer of 1949 with their six children. My father rented a box car and we loaded a good part of our belongings including a milk cow and left for Nampa, AB. My father and Laurent rode along in the box car, and I drove a truck loaded with furniture and some odds and ends.

In Nampa my father bought some Hudson Bay land. It was all bush and we had no place to stay. Our neighbors let us have a spare shack where we stayed until a house was finally built. Times were hard as money was scarce; we had no decent machinery to work with. My parents put in a garden the following year on a new piece of breaking. Nothing grew in that grey gumbo. My father, being a good gardener and having left a big garden and orchard in St. Louis, was naturally very disappointed.

He worked very hard on his garden patch hauling a lot of manure and peat moss. Eventually he had the soil easy to work, so grew a nice big garden with fruit trees and flowers.

In the early fifties the search was on for oil in the Peace River country and that created a lot of work. My first winter of cat work was with Paul and George Fortier of Nampa, snowploughing and cutting lines for seismic operations. The following year, I worked for Mr. Hermel Michaud doing land clearing and excavating dugouts around Donnelly and Guy. In 1956 the prospects were good in Hinton, AB. for "cat" work, building roads for the Pulp and Paper Co. that had recently started. Mr. Michaud and I decided to move there where I stayed for many years.



R.1 Albert, Jean. R.2 Marc, Leo, Hubert. R.3 Bernadette.

In 1958 my mother passed away in Nampa and was buried there.

In 1961 I met my wife-to-be, Jean Cardinal, daughter of Daniel Cardinal and Emilia Cardinal, who was a cook in a cafe in Hinton. We were married in 1962 at Round Hill where my sister and brother-in-law lived at the time.

On December 2nd, 1952, our first child, Bernadette was born in Hinton. In the spring of 1963 we decided to leave Hinton and move to Nampa for a short while. My father was making arrangements to sell his land and move to Guy, AB. where Laurent had taken some homesteads south of Little Smoky River. My father bought half a section of land N ½ 15-74-21 W5 from Gérard Bastien. He also bought the little house that was on the land and moved it onto Laurent's land along the highway. This little house still stands there today. My father fixed himself a little shack close by. He set to work planting different kinds of trees as well as fruit trees and a lot of flowers. He spent many hours and days fixing a nice yard.

I also had applied for homestead land in 1963 and took possession in early 1964 of SW 11 and SE 10-74-21-W5. This was one year we will remember for a long time. Jean and I started a hog raising operation. The ten bred sows produced good litters. I had built a big pen separated by a little hut in each pen. Unfortunately it rained from June to freeze-up. We lost a lot of piglets due to deep boggy soil conditions. Being fed up with the whole thing, we loaded and shipped all the pigs to market.

Since it was impossible that fall to get on the field with a combine, we bought a binder and threshing machine. Even with the help of a "cat" borrowed from a neighbor, we were unable to move ahead. Then we put the stoneboat under the drive wheel until the mud piled up in front of the drive shaft at which point we gave up. I, then and there, decided to go to work for Leduc Construction in Slave Lake as a cat operator. I moved my family there.

After spending the years 1963 to 1973 in Hinton, we moved our trailer to Laurent's yard where we stayed for three years. We then bought Mamie Jones's place NW 10-74-21-W5 where we are presently living. We raise cattle and a few hogs. Jean worked at the J.B. Wood Nursing Home in High Prairie for ten years. This summer we will celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary.

After spending the winter of 1973 in Cold Lake, AB., with my sister and brother-in-law, Dad caught pneumonia and passed away on April 6, 1974. He is buried in Nampa alongside my mother.

Hubert Forseilles: n. 10-09-1930

m. 02-06-1962

Jean Cardinal: n. 01-02-1942

CHILDREN:

1- Bernadette: n. 09-12-1962

2- Marc: n. 14-08-1964

3- Léo: n. 19-10-1969

4- Albert: n. 01-04-1971

* * *

A l'été 1949, mes parents Victor et Marie Forseilles quittèrent St-Louis, Sask. avec leurs six enfants. Mon père avait loué un wagon et fit transporter la plupart de nos effets personnels en plus d'une vache à lait et partit pour Nampa, AB. Mon père et Laurent voyagèrent sur le wagon, tandis que je chauffais le camion chargé de meubles et d'effets divers.

Arrivés à Nampa, mon père acheta un quart de terre de la Compagnie de la Baie D'Hudson. Il était en bois debout et un voisin nous prêta une cabane où nous habitions jusqu'à ce qu'une résidence à nous soit construite.

L'argent étant rare; les temps étaient durs; nous n'avions pas de machines convenables pour travailler la terre. L'année suivante, mes parents plantèrent un jardin dans la terre nouvellement défrichée. Aucune graine ne germa dans cette glaise. Mon père était bon jardinier et fut bien désappointé de cet échec. Il avait laissé derrière lui un beau grand jardin et un verger à St-Louis.

Il s'acharna à étendre du fumier et de la tourbe sur son jardin. En fin de compte la terre était assez meubles et il sema un grand jardin potager, des arbres fruitiers et des fleurs.

Au début des années 50, les recherches pour le pétrole allaient de plein pied dans la région de la Rivière La Paix; ce qui a produit beaucoup d'emploi. Je fus employé par Paul et George Fortier de Nampa pour pousser la neige et couper les lignes pour les opérations sismiques avec un tracteur à chenille. L'hiver suivant, je travaillai pour M. Hermel Michaud à défricher du terrain et à creuser des étangs aux environs de Donnelly et de Guy.

En 1956, les perspectives semblaient prometteuses à Hinton pour du travail avec le tracteur à chenille sur la construction des routes pour la compagnie de puple et de papier venait d'ouvrir ses portes. M. Michaud et moi-même décidèrent de tenter notre chance là, et j'y suis resté plusieurs années.

En 1958, ma mère mourait à Nampa où elle fut inhumée.

En 1961, je rencontrai celle qui deviendrait

mon épouse, Jean Cardinal, fille de Daniel et Emilia Cardinal.

Ayant vécu à Hinton de 1963 à 1973, nous installions notre maison mobile chez Laurent où nous vécumes pour trois ans. Puis, nous avons acheté la terre de Mamie Jones où nous vivons présentement. Nous faisons l'élevage de bestiaux et de quelques porcs. Jean travaille au foyer J.B. Wood à High Prairie depuis dix ans.

Après avoir passé l'hiver 1973 à Cold Lake chez ma soeur et son mari, mon père fut atteint d'une pneumonie et il mourut le 6 avril 1974. Il fut inhumé à Nampa près de ma mère.

FORSEILLE, LAWRENCE & REID, EILEEN

by Eileen

Lawrence Forseille was born in 1935 in St-Louis, Saskatchewan. He is the second son and the fourth of six children of Victor and Marie Forseille. He moved from Nampa with his father onto his homestead in the fall of 1963. He broke and cleared the NE ¼ of 21-74-21-W5 and worked the N ½ of 15-74-21-W5 land that his father Victor had bought from Gérard Bastien. Over winters, he worked as a "cat Skinner." In 1957-58 he helped build the main highway up to Little Smoky Bridge. He can remember the excitement when the power came through in time for Christmas in 1963. When he could, he helped his sister Augustine farm her land in the Whitemud area after the death of her husband, Gérard Drouin. In 1982 he married Eileen Eldridge.

Eileen Reid was born in Beaverlodge in 1939. In July, 1957 she married Allan Eldridge. Allan and Eileen had four children:

- 1- James: n. 14-12-1958, now lives in Saskatchewan
- 2- Michael: n. 16-09-1960 m. 20-06-1981 with Barbara Higgin and they have three children: Tamalyn, Melissa and Scott
- 3- Barbara: n. 16-02-1962 m. 26-05-1979 with Glen Fergeson n. 14-10-1961 and they have two children: Amanda and Josie
- 4- Kenneth: n. -11-1964 m. with Vivian Bonnamour and live in Falher.

Lawrence Forseille: n. 1935
m. 1982

Eileen Reid: n. 1939

CHILDREN:

- 1- Christopher: n. 29-01-1976
- 2- Christine: n. 01-07-1982

* * *

Le quatrième enfant de Victor et Marie Forseilles, Lawrence naquit à St-Louis, Saskatchewan en 1935.

En 1963, il quittait Nampa avec son père pour aller vivre sur son "homestead" Il défricha un quart de section et aida à la culture de la terre de son père, terre qu'il avait achetée de Gérard Bastien. En hiver, il travaillait comme "catskinner" et en 1957-58 il aida à la construction de la grande route allant jusqu'au pont de la petite rivière Smoky. Il se souvient de la joie ressentie alors que le pouvoir électrique fut installé à temps pour Noël en 1963. Quand il avait le temps, il donnait un coup de main à la ferme de sa soeur Augustine à Whitemud, Creek après le décès de son mari, Gérard Drouin.

En 1982, il épousait Eileen Reid qui est née à Beaverlodge en 1939. Elle s'était mariée à Allan Eldridge en 1957.

FORSEILLES, VICTOR HUET, MARIE

by Hubert Forseilles

My dad, Victor Forseilles, living in St. Louis, Saskatchewan at the time, spent part of the winter of 1948 in British Columbia looking for an orchard which he had dreamed of owning for a long time. He didn't like travelling by car because one didn't have the time to look around and enjoy the scenery, he said. So he decided to buy a bicycle and travelled the Okanagan Valley and Vancouver Island riding his bike. He had a few places in mind and was impressed by the climate. On his way back to St. Louis, he travelled by bus through Prince George, Dawson Creek, Grande



Victor Forseille and Grandson Gerry Drouin.



Victor's Flower garden.



Victor's craft.

Prairie. While in Grande Prairie, AB., he met a priest from Marie-Reine, AB., who encouraged him to take some homesteads in Marie-Reine. Being close to Marie-Reine, AB., he decided to go and check out the area. He did not like the Marie-Reine plan which consisted of every family living in town on their 20 acres and travelling to work on the farms. Since he was close to Peace River he decided to go to the Land Office there to find out what land was available. Hudson Bay land was available; so he bought it. This is how the family landed in Nampa, AB., and unfortunately not in B.C.

Victor Forseilles partit de St. Louis, Saskatchewan, pendant l'hiver de 1948 afin de visiter la Colombie Britannique. Il rêvait d'acheter un verger et voulait choisir l'endroit idéal. Il parcourut la vallée de l'Okanagan, l'Île de Vancouver en bicyclette afin de mieux admirer la nature. Son choix fut presque fait. Mais pendant son voyage de retour en autobus, il rencontra le curé de Marie-Reine à Grande Prairie; celui-ci l'encouragea à s'établir à Marie-Reine. Il s'y rendit mais n'aima pas leur organisation — les familles demeurant au village et voyageant à leur ferme pour cultiver. Il se rendit alors au Bureau des Terres à Peace River et acheta une terre à Nampa, AB. Voilà comment il se fait que nous déménagions à Nampa au lieu de la Colombie Britannique!



R.1 Marie-Paule, Jeanne, Suzanne, Jocelyne, Fernande, Denise. R.2 Jean, Guy, Amédée, Irène, Claude, Ronald et Michel.

FORTIER, AMEEDÉ & PRUNEAU, IRENE

par Cécile Aubin

Ce qui nous a amené en Alberta, moi, ma femme et nos six enfants, c'est que à Ste-Rose Cté Dorchester, nous devions gagner notre vie dans le bois — la ferme ne rapportait presque rien — c'était seulement une place pour rester. Il y avait tellement de roches qu'on ne pouvait faire aucun labour. J'avais quatre acres quand je suis parti de là.

Quand on est arrivé à Donnelly, le 15 avril 1950, on n'était pas à l'étranger. Il y avait déjà pas mal de parenté d'installée dans la région. Ils semblaient tous faire une meilleure vie que nous au Québec. Ils allaient aux chantiers aussi, mais ne connaissaient pas ce que c'était de travailler dans la neige jusqu'à la ceinture comme c'était la situation au Québec.

En arrivant j'ai d'abord loué, pour trois ans, une terre de Mme Bill Desnoyers, à quatre milles au sud de Donnelly et un mille à l'ouest. Après ça, j'ai loué, en plus, pour deux ans, le carreau de Fred Desnoyers. Pendant ce temps, j'ai pris une 1/2 section, 21-74-21-W5, au sud de la rivière Smoky dans la région de Guy. J'allais seul travailler sur ce "homestead" tandis que ma famille continuait à demeurer à Donnelly. Il n'y avait pas de pont sur la rivière; il nous fallait prendre le traversier — chez Vincelette pour s'y rendre. La traversée du nord au sud ne posait pas trop de problèmes, mais la traversée de retour était parfois une toute autre histoire. Une fois, Lucien Fortier et moi-même avons dû attendre deux nuits, et coucher dans notre voiture.

Ce n'est que dans un cas d'urgence — un enfant malade en route pour l'hôpital de

McLennan — que le ferry a fait le trajet du sud au nord. La rivière était très haute et bien dangereuse. Une autre fois, la rivière était deux fois plus large qu'à l'ordinaire. On a encore passé la nuit sur la côte sud et à la clarté du jour le "ferry-man" nous crie: "Avez-vous des chaînes pour votre Model A?" J'en avais et je les ai posées en grande vitesse de peur qu'il ne change d'idée. On avance très lentement pour prendre le traversier; il y avait de l'eau jusqu'au radiateur et c'était aussi dangereux de mettre de l'eau dans le moteur. Une fois sur le traversier, le conducteur me dit: "Aide-moi à cramper les roues de l'auto, afin qu'elle ne roule pas. Quand tu arriveras de l'autre côté de la rivière, saute tout de suite car le traversier peut reculer et il y aura trop de distance entre le traversier et la terre." C'était pas mal énervant mais ça c'est bien passé. Trois ou quatre autres fois nous avons dû coucher encore comme ça en compagnie de mués de maringouins.

En 1955 et 1956 toute la famille a passé l'été sur le "homestead". A l'automne nous retournions au chantier de Raoul Lambert à Reno afin de gagner pendant l'hiver. Ces étés là, nous restions dans deux graineries.

J'ai commencé à bâtir ma maison en 1957 — l'année de la neige du 3 octobre — et je l'ai finie en juin 1958. Je me suis empressé d'aller chercher ma femme qui travaillait à Spirit River et les enfants qui allaient au pensionnat à Spirit River aussi pour aller à l'école. Le couvent de Donnelly avait passé au feu.

Le soir du Jour de l'An, 1965, lorsqu'il n'y avait personne à la maison notre demeure a passé au feu. Tout a été détruit. Il ne nous

restait que les vêtements que nous avions sur le dos. Josephat Fortier nous hébergea pour trois semaines après quoi nous déménâmes dans notre garage, jusqu'en 1967 quand notre nouvelle maison fut habitable. On n'a pas trop souffert car les gens nous ont bien aidé et ont été bien généreux. On nous a apporté des vêtements pour toute la famille, des couvertures, des lits, des meubles de toutes sortes — presque tout ce que nous avions besoin. Nous avons appris lors de cette épreuve à connaître la bonté des gens de la région.

Nos enfants ont commencé l'école à Donnelly. En 1957 et 1958, ils ont été pensionnaire à Spirit River où ils ont eu une bonne chance d'apprendre l'anglais.

En 1957 on commence à construire le pont sur la rivière petite Smoky et maintenant notre ferme n'est plus qu'à deux milles au sud du pont. Les autobus scolaires transportent les enfants à l'école de Guy à l'automne 1958. Ils sont tous allés à l'école Langlois où l'enseignement était bilingue, français et anglais. Nous étions bien contents de notre vie maintenant que les enfants pouvaient se procurer une bonne éducation et être à la maison à chaque soir. Nous avons enfin une vraie vie de famille.

Non, je ne suis pas intéressé du tout à retourner au Québec. Tout tellement changé là-bas — c'est pas le même genre de vie — les gens essaient trop de ménager — je ne sais pas pourquoi.

En 1979 j'ai vendu ma ferme et ma maison et deux autres carreaux à Germain Bastien. J'ai aussi vendu trois quarts de terrain à mon fils Jean. Je me suis installé avec ma femme à Valleyview, afin de prendre ma retraite. Je me suis installé à Valleyview et non dans un centre plus francophone parce que je pensais travailler encore les hivers pour la Co. Kozic. Mais la maladie a frappé; quand on n'a jamais été malade on pense qu'on ne peut pas manquer.

Je jouis de ma retraite — j'ai de bons voisins — ma femme à mes côtés — Je me trouve en ville avec la tranquillité de la campagne. Nous avons aussi souvent la visite de nos enfants.

Amedée Fortier: n. 23-09-1922 m. 08-07-1942
Irène Pruneau: n. 02-05-1920

ENFANTS:

1) Denise: n. 10-11-1943 m. 24-08-1970

Rolland Giroux: n. 16-07-1933

a) Rollande: n. 13-04-1971

b) Lorraine: n. 16-07-1973

Denise et Rolland demeurent sur une ferme à McLennan.

2) Jean: n. 25-11-1944 m. 03-05-1969

Judy Cotton: n. 16-01-1949

(voir Fortier, Jean)

3) Guy: n. 01-11-1945 m. 26-09-1970

Gwendolyn Fosbang: n. 15-06-1950

a) Noel: n. 31-10-1970

b) Bernadette: n. 05-09-1974

Guy demeure à Edmonton

4) Fernande: n. 14-06-1947 m. 16-09-1972

Maurice Giroux: n. 12-03-1943

a) Monique: n. 04-03-1973

b) Rachel Tina: n. 25-06-1974

c) Nicole Eileen: n. 25-06-1974

d) Leo: n. 19-02-1980

Cette famille demeure sur une ferme à McLennan.

5) Joycelyne: n. 12-10-1948 m.

Robert Shoenberger: n. 24-03-1941

a) Denis Robert: n. 06-09-1970

b) Denise Ann: n. 24-06-1972

Ils demeurent à Manning, AB.

6) Suzanne: n. 03-02-1950 m. 21-03-1969

Donald Guerin: n. 17-05-1947

a) Christine: n. 06-08-1969

b) Marc Donald: n. 07-01-1977

Ils demeurent à Grande Prairie, AB

7) Claude: n. 13-11-1951 m. 06-08-1982

Joan Kupnowski: n. 04-11-1959

a) Keith: n. 16-09-1977

b) Kenneth: n. 15-02-1983

c) Danny: n. 17-03-1984

Ils demeurent à Prince Georges, BC.

8) Ronald: n. 04-01-1953

Il demeure à Prince Georges, BC.

9) Jeanne: n. 24-07-1954 m. 18-09-1971

Jean Leo Boivin: n. 22-02-1948

a) Dean Michel: n. 07-03-1972

b) Darrell John: n. 11-04-1974

c) Deanna Crystal: n. 11-04-1974

Ils demeurent à Grande Prairie.

10) Marie-Paule: n. 30-08-1959 m. 03-10-1981

Wes Bradley: n. 29-11-1956

a) Williams: n. 03-08-1983

Ils demeurent à Valleyview.

11) Michel: n. 20-01-1964

Michel demeure à Valleyview.

* * *

When we came to Donnelly April 15, 1950, we were not complete strangers. There were quite a few relatives already settled in the region. They all seemed to be making a better living than we did in Quebec.

Upon arriving I rented a quarter for three years from Mrs. Bill Desnoyers, four miles south

and one mile west of Donnelly. After this I rented Fred Desnoyers' quarter for two years. In the meantime I filed on a half section south of the Smoky River in the Guy region. I would go there alone to work while my family continued to stay in Donnelly. There was no bridge on the river. We had to take the ferry at Vincelette's to cross over.

The south bound crossing was usually easy but the north-bound was quite another story. Once Lucien Fortier and myself had to wait two nights and sleep in our cars. The river was high and very dangerous. Another time, the river was twice as wide as usual. We slept on the south shore and at dawn the ferry-man called and asked if we had chains for our Model A. I had and put them on quickly. We moved forward cautiously to board the ferry. There was water up to the radiator and it was dangerous to get water in the motor. Once on the ferry we had to block the wheels to be sure it wouldn't roll and on the other side we had to hurry before the ferry could back up. Three or four other times we had to sleep accompanied by clouds of mosquitos.

In 1955 and 1956 the whole family stayed on the homestead during the summer. In the fall we would return to Raoul Lambert's lumber camp at Reno in order to earn money during winter. In summer we stayed in two granaries.

I started building my house in 1957 and finished it in June 1958. I then got my wife in Spirit River where she was working and the children who were at the Spirit River convent in order to attend school. The convent in Donnelly had burned down.

On New Year's night 1965 when there was no one at home, our house burned down. Everything was destroyed. We were left with the clothes on our back. Josephat Fortier took us in for three weeks after which we moved in our garage up to 1967 when our new house was ready to live in. We had a lot of help because people were very generous. They brought clothes for all the family, blankets, beds, furniture. We learned through this ordeal about the kindness of the people of this region.

In 1957 it's the construction of a bridge over the Little Smoky river and now our farm is but two miles south of the bridge. School buses transported our children to the Guy school in the fall of 1958. They all went to Langlois school where they received a bilingual education. We were very happy with our life now that our children were getting a good education and could be home every night. Finally we were having a real family life.

In 1979 I sold my farm, my house and two

other quarters to Germain Bastien. I also sold three quarters to my son, Jean. We moved to Valleyview to retire.

FORTIER, ANSELME & BAILLARGEON, ELMIRE

par Berthe Cloutier

Anselme Fortier est né à Ste-Justine, P.Q. Comme occupation il avait un petit magasin où il vendait aussi des remèdes car il était vétérinaire. Vingt ans plus tard, la famille déménagea à Ste-Rose, P.Q. où il ouvre un autre magasin et Anselme fait le même travail de vétérinaire.

Anselme et Elmire ont eu une famille de six garçons et deux filles.

A l'âge de 80 ans, Anselme, veuf, vint demeurer avec son fils Cyrille en Alberta.

Il est décédé à 92 ans à Guy en 1938.

* * *

Anselme was born at Ste. Justine, P.Q. He owned a small store where he also sold medicine for he was a veterinarian. Twenty years later he moved his family to Ste. Rose, P.Q. where he opened another store and continued his veterinary work.

Elmire and Anselme had six sons and two daughters. Anselme became a widower and so moved to the Guy area where he lived with his son, Cyrille.

Anselme Fortier passed away in 1938 at the age of 92 years.

FORTIER, CYRILLE & TURCOTTE, FLEURIDA (1m); LATULIPPE, CLARA (2m); REMILLARD, ALMA (3m)

par Berthe Cloutier

Cyrille est né à Ste-Justine, CtE Dorchester, P.Q. le 22 octobre 1880, fils d'Anselme et d'Elmire Roy. Ils étaient six frères et deux soeurs. La famille était établie sur une terre à deux milles du village de Ste-Rose où ils cultivaient un verger de pommiers.

Il se maria jeune avec Fleurida Turcotte, une fille du même village. Ils ont eu quatre enfants. Malheureusement il perdit sa femme.

Quelques années plus tard il se maria en secondes noces avec Clara Latulippe. De cette union sont nés Hormidas, Joséphat, Odilon, Théodore et Enée.

A l'âge de 35 ans il devint encore veuf. Il



Cyrille & Alma Rémillard Fortier.

épousa ma mère le 12 juillet 1914. Alma était la fille de Rémi Rémillard et Bellezemire Leroux de St-Camille, Cté Bellechasse, P.Q. De ce mariage naquirent cinq enfants.

En 1916 mon père est venu à Falher voir du terrain. Il a trouvé le terrain de son goût; de la prairie et pas de roches. Il est retourné au Québec pour organiser le déménagement. En 1929 c'est à six milles au nord de Guy (qui n'existait pas dans ce temps) qu'il acheta une terre et bâtit une grande maison en "logs" équarrit par lui-même.

Pendant de longues soirées d'hiver les voisins: l'Abbé, Thibault, Larochelle, Morin, Trottier et Villeneuve se rassemblaient chez nous pour écouter mon père raconter. Même au chantier il était payé pour divertir les bûcherons et leurs familles avec ses contes. Il était un très habile conteur.



Photo prise en 1927 avant le départ pour l'ouest. R.1 Berthe, Emilienne, Simon, Simonne. R.2 Théodore, Enée, Tit Jos un cousin, Odilon et Jos Fortier. R.3 Hormidas, 2 tantes Fortier, Anselme, Alma & Cyrille et Théophile Fortier.

Mon père a toujours participé aux activités paroissiales. Il a aidé à la construction de l'église et nous dit qu'il a construit la cheminée. Il prenait sa place au chœur de chant avec Fred Caron, Edmond l'Abbé et Adollard Martel. Ses fils Hormidas et Enée ont joué du violon à la première messe de minuit dans la nouvelle église.

Notre mère avait beaucoup de courage; elle était très habile couturière et cousait les pantalons ainsi que les grosses chemises d'étoffe pour ses hommes; elle tricotait les bas de laine souvent à la lueur du feu du poêle de la cuisine. Très bonne cuisinière, elle pouvait, dans le temps de le dire, servir un succulent repas à la visite inattendu.

Notre jeunesse a été heureuse; nous gardons de précieux souvenirs des veillées passées au foyer paternel à chanter, écouter les contes de mon père et des voisins ainsi que les danses au son de la musique que mes frères jouaient.

Cyrille Fortier: n. 22-10-1880 d. 06-02-1938
1m.: Fleurida Turcotte

ENFANTS:

- 1- Amédée: n. -02-1899 d. 19-04-1921
- 2- Théophile: n. 06-01-1900 d. 09-07-1935
- 3- Alyre: n. 06-03-1901 m. d. 1986
Adélia Silven: n. 16-02-1902 d. -01-1970
- 4- Edouard: n. 23-04-1902 m. Blanche Soucy: n. 26-09-1909
2m.: Clara Latulippe

ENFANTS:

- 5- Hormidas: n. 14-01-1909 m. 24-02-1936
d. 03-01-1966
Suzanne Dupuy: n. -11-1916
d. 18-10-1948
(voir Fortier, Hormidas)
- 6- Odilon: n. 26-02-1910 m. 26-07-1936
Fernande Morin: n. 16-12-1918 (voir Fortier, Odilon)
- 7- Joséphat: n. 14-03-1911 m. 31-12-1934
d. 11-12-1983
- 8- Théodore: n. 09-11-1912 m. 12-1938
d. 12-1984
Gracia Marion: n. 11-01-1920 (voir Fortier, Théodore)
- 9- Enée: n. 08-12-1913 m. 14-02-1942
Bernadette Cormier: n. 28-09-1922, (voir Fortier, Ené)
3m.: Alma Rémillard: n. 19-09-1880 d. 12-01-1965
- 10- Simonne: n. 16-10-1916 m. 12-10-1937
Sylvio Morin: n. 13-02-1911 d. 28-07-1979

- 11- *Simon: n. 28-01-1918 m. 19-10-1951*
Thérèse Cliche: n. 21-04-1928, (voir Fortier, Simon)
- 12- *Emilienne: n. 01-06-1920 m. 07-11-1938*
Emile Brulotte: n. 13-07-1918
- 13- *Berthe: n. 28-12-1921 m. 01-12-1945*
Roland Cloutier: n. 15-04-1917 (voir Roland Cloutier)
- 14- *Emilien: n. 1923 décédé à neuf mois.*

EMILLIENNE AJOUTE:

Je suis arrivée dans l'Ouest avec mes parents à l'âge de sept ans. Après avoir passé onze ans à fréquenter la petite école et à travailler dans les maisons privées, je me suis mariée à dix-huit ans à Emile Brulotte de Girouxville. Notre mariage fut célébré en l'église de Guy par l'Abbé St-Pierre. Emile ayant servi la messe d'ordination de l'Abbé St-Pierre à Grouard, celui-ci se dit heureux de bénir notre union.

Nous avons fondé notre foyer sur une ferme à six milles au sud de Girouxville. En 1950 Emile fut hospitalisé pour un an et je suis retournée pendant ce temps vivre chez mon frère Simon avec mes enfants. Ceux-ci ont fréquenté le couvent et l'école de Guy pendant ce temps.

Emilienne Fortier: n. 01-06-1920 m. 07-11-1938

Emile Brulotte: n. 13-07-1918 d. 18-10-1985
ENFANTS:

1- *Isabelle: n. 06-11-1939 m. 20-06-1962*

Aurèle Doran: n. 14-05-1934

Ils demeurent à Falher et ont trois enfants: Donald, Gary et Allen.

2- *Edgar: n. 05-12-1940 m. 30-11-1959*

Laurette Valiquette: n. 30-01-1939

Ils demeurent à Hay River et ont quatre enfants: Roger, Aurèle, Hector et Larry.

3- *Sylva: n. 04-03-1942 m. 03-07-1970*

Roberta Fletcher: n. 14-05-1947

Ils demeurent à High Level et ont deux enfants: Michelle et Cary.

4- *René: n. 10-07-1943 m. 05-03-1971*

Henriette Valiquette: n. 03-11-1951

Ils demeurent à Girouxville et ont deux enfants: Dwayne et Lisa.

5- *Edna: n. 04-07-1948, elle demeure à Grande Prairie.*

6- *Gérald: n. 29-09-1961 m.*

Jacqueline Beaubier: n. 09-12-1965

Ils demeurent à North Vancouver, C.B., et ont un enfant: Meaghan.

* * *

Cyrille was born in the province of Quebec. He had six brothers and two sisters. The family

lived on a farm, two miles from the village of Ste. Rose, where they owned an apple orchard.

At a very young age, he married a girl from his home-town Fleurida Turcotte; they had four children. Sadly his wife died.

A few years later he married Clara Latulippe. Five children were born.

At age thirty five, he was widowed once more. He married my mother, Alma, on July 12, 1914. They had five children.

In 1916, my father came to Falher to see the land. He liked what he saw – prairie land and no stones. He returned to Quebec to prepare to move. In 1929, six miles north of the hamlet of Guy, he bought some land and built a large house out of squared-off logs. During the long winter evenings, several neighbours would meet at our home to listen to my father's story-telling. Even in lumber camps, he was paid to entertain the lumbermen and their families with his talks. He was a very good story-teller!

My mother was a courageous woman. She was a good seamstress and a very good cook. Often, in the evenings, she would knit some woolen socks by the light of the fire from the kitchen stove.

Our youth was a happy one. We have fond memories of evenings at home, singing, listening to our father's tales and those of the neighbours, and of dancing to the music of my brothers.

FORTIER, HORMIDAS & DUPUY, SUZANNE

by the family

Hormidas, son of Cyrille Fortier and Clairia Latulipe, was born at Ste. Rose de Watford, Co. Dorchester, P.Q., January 14, 1909.

He moved to a homestead six miles north of Guy in 1927. At the age of twenty-six years he married Suzanne Dupuy, daughter of George Isadore Dupuy and Emma Thomas of Ballater, AB.

As a young man he earned his living sawing wood from door to door. He would haul his portable saw with a team of horses and once in his neighbor's yard they would form a crew to saw the logs into firewood. Like his father and brothers he loved to hunt and would share the meat with his friends and neighbors. He was a very courageous man; having lost his loving wife after only ten years of marriage he raised his family of seven by himself. The oldest girl, Georgette, being only ten years old and the youngest being only eighteen months; these were difficult times. Hormidas being very musically inclined played the violin for dances at halls and school parties as well as for friends' weddings and family gatherings.



Hormidas et Suzanne Fortier.



Les enfants Fortier: R.1 Yvette, Roger. R.2 Florence, Paulette, René, Cécile. R.3 Georgette.

Hormidas stayed on his farm till he died at the age of fifty-six.

Hormidas: n.14-01-1909

m.24-02-1936

d.03-01-1966

Suzanne Dupuy: n.

CHILDREN:

1. Georgette: n.27-09-1937

m.05-11-1954

Roger Roy

They have three children: Lorraine, Lise and Richard. They live in Dawson Creek, B.C.

2. René: n.02-03-1939 m.

d.03-07-1986

Joyce Hodgson

They have three children: Leon, Nadeen and Rená.

3. Florence: n.04-07-1941 m.30-12-1959

Norman Lamarche: n.1937

(see Lamarche story)

4. Paulette: n.28-08-1942 m.

Paul Bisson (see Bisson, Paul story)

5. Cécile: n.17-10-1943 m. 1963

Victor Labonté Smith

They have two children: Cindy and Kelly.

6. Yvette: n.15-06-1944 m.

Ross Bohning

They have three children: Bruce, Christa and Ross Jr.

7. Roger: n.08-03-1947 1m. 1969

Monique Côté

They have two children: Nicole and Colette.

2m.28-08-1982 Diane Côté

Hormidas déménagea sur un "homestead" à six milles au nord de Guy en 1927. A l'âge de vingt-six ans il épousa Suzanne Dupuy de Bal-later, Alberta.

Jeune homme il gagna sa vie en allant de porte en porte pour scier du bois. Il transportait sa scie portative avec un attelage de chevaux et une fois rendu dans la cour d'un voisin on formait une équipe pour scier les billots. Comme son père et ses frères il aimait chasser et partageait le gibier avec ses amis et voisins. Ce fut un homme courageux; ayant perdu sa femme après seulement dix ans de mariage, il éleva sa famille de sept tout seul. L'aînée, Geor-gette n'ayant que dix ans et le plus jeune que dix-huit mois, ce fut des temps difficiles.

Hormidas jouait du violon pour les danses dans les salles et pour les soirées d'école ainsi que pour les mariages d'amis et les réunions de familles.

Hormidas demeura sur sa ferme jusqu'à sa mort à l'âge de cinquante-six ans.

FORTIER, JEAN & COTTON, JUDY

by Jean & Judy Fortier

Jean was born in St. Cyprien, cté Dorchester, P.Q. on November 25, 1944 to Amédée and Irène Fortier. He came to Alberta with his parents at the age of four years. The family lived south of Donnelly for a few years until they moved to their homestead south of the Little Smoky River. He took some of his schooling in Donnelly then in Spirit River till the age of fourteen. He did one year at Langlois School in Guy.



R.1 Steven, Timmy. R.2 Jean & Judy.

His first job was on a gravel crusher in Guy. Then he worked in a sawmill in Fort St. John, B.C. with his dad. He worked on oil rigs for many years. On May 3, 1969, he married Judy Cotton. "We lived in the town of Guy for one year, then we moved to my dad's farm south of Guy and finally to our own farm NE-20-74-21-W of 5M."

Jean Fortier; n.25-11-1944 m.03-05-1969

Judy Cotton; n.

CHILDREN:

1. Steven; n.14-03-1973

2. Timmy; n.04-11-1975

* * *

Jean, fils d'Amédée et d'Irène Fortier, est né à St-Cyprien, cté Dorchester, P.Q. le 25 novembre 1944. Il vint en Alberta avec ses parents à l'âge de quatre ans. La famille vécut au sud de Donnelly pour quelques années, puis elle déménagea sur le "homestead" au sud de la petite rivière Smoky. Jean fit ses études à Donnelly d'abord, puis à Spirit River et finalement à l'école Langlois de Guy.

Son premier emploi fut sur un écraseur de gravier à Guy. Ensuite il alla travailler pour quelques temps avec son père dans un moulin à scie à Fort St. John et aussi pendant plusieurs années sur les "rigs" d'huile.

Le 3 mai 1969 il épousa Judy Cotton. Ils demeurèrent au village de Guy pour un an, puis déménagèrent sur la ferme au sud de Guy, et enfin sur leur propre ferme, le NE-20-74-21-W5M.

FORTIER, JOSEPH & TURCOTTE, MARIA (1m)

LEBLOND, ESTELLE (2m)

par Berthe Cloutier et Lucille Fortier Gosselin

Joseph Fortier est né à St-Anselme, Dorchester, P.Q. le 9 mai 1883, fils d'Anselme Fortier et d'Edmire Roy. Il était le frère de Cyrille Fortier.

Il épousa Maria Turcotte qui est décédée peu d'années après leur mariage. Il se maria en secondes noces avec Estelle Leblond et n'a pas eu d'enfants. Sa femme n'est jamais venue dans l'ouest.

Il était forgeron et avait appris son métier aux Etats-Unis. Il s'installe à Ste-Rose, P.Q. et travaille à son métier pendant quelques années. Le goût de l'aventure le prend et il décide de venir dans l'ouest. Il arrive à Falher en 1916 et prend un "homestead", le NE 34-76-20-W5. Le premier hiver il travaille pour Charles Dupuis et l'été d'ensuite se construit un "shack". Mais son vrai métier est vétérinaire, qu'il avait appris de son père et dans les livres; il aimait bien la lecture et lisait beaucoup. Sous peu il fut connu partout dans la région pour les bons soins qu'il administrait aux animaux malades. Il pouvait passer plusieurs nuits sans dormir afin de sauver un animal qui souffrait. Les gens n'avaient pas toujours l'argent pour le payer; il



Jos & Cyrille Fortier.

prenait ce qu'on lui donnait, et il venait à bout d'acheter les remèdes nécessaires.

Tant qu'à sa propre santé il utilisait les mêmes médicaments qu'il se servait pour les animaux; il disait qu'il ne voulait pas faire vivre les docteurs. Simon nous raconte que quand sa vue se mit à diminuer il alla voir un médecin. Celui-ci lui annonce qu'il a des cataractes et qu'il devrait subir une intervention chirurgicale prochainement ou prendre le risque de devenir aveugle. Alors il arrive chez Simon quelques jours plus tard et lui demande s'il voulait bien lui souffler du sucre dans l'oeil comme il le faisait pour les chevaux. Simon accepte et l'oncle Jos met du sucre sur un papier de cigarette et se fait souffler cela dans l'oeil pendant qu'il tient sa paupière ouverte. Il répète ce traitement pendant trois soirs et paraît-il que ses cataractes ont disparues et il ne s'est jamais fait opérer.

A chaque jour de l'An les frères Fortier allaient, selon la coutume, donner la main à l'oncle Jos.; et ça lui faisait toujours plaisir. Il tournait la manivelle du tourne-disque et tout le monde chantait la Bolduc, chanteuse populaire du temps. L'oncle avait une très bonne collection de disques avec des chansons comiques et chansons à répondre.

En 1969 après avoir vécu sur sa terre pendant cinquante-trois ans Jos décide de vendre sa terre à Adrien Gamache et de retourner au Québec vivre avec son frère Darius à Ste-Rose Dorchester, P.Q. C'est là qu'il est décédé le 30 octobre 1969.

Joseph Fortier son of Anselme Fortier and Edmire Roy was born in Québec on May 9, 1883. He was the brother of Cyrille Fortier. A few years after his marriage to Maria Turcotte, his wife passed away. He later married Estelle Leblond. They did not have any children. His wife never came west.

He was a blacksmith, a trade he had learned in the United States. He practiced his trade in Québec for a few years. Seeking adventure, he decided to come west. Arriving in Falher in 1916, he filed on a homestead. That first winter, he worked for Charles Dupuis, and the following summer he built a shack on his land. But he was first and foremost a veterinarian, a trade he had learned from his father, and from books. It wasn't long before he became known in the area for the treatments he offered to ailing animals. He would spend several nights without sleeping while caring for them. People could not always pay him with money; so he accepted whatever they offered, and he was always able to purchase the necessary medication.

After having farmed for fifty-three years, Jos sold to Adrien Gamache and returned to Québec in 1969 where he lived with his brother Darius at Ste. Rose. He died there at 86 years of age.

FORTIER, JOSEPHAT & MORIN, ROSE ALMA

par Lucille Fortier Gosselin

Mon père Josephat Fortier est né le 14 mars 1911 à Ste-Rose de Watford, cté Dorchester, P.Q. et ma mère, Rose Alma Morin, le 18 mars 1912 à St-Camille cté Bellechasse, P.Q. Papa est arrivé dans la région en 1929 avec son père Cyrille Fortier ainsi que le reste de la famille. Comme beaucoup d'autres colons, ils ont pris des "homesteads" et ont commencé à défricher la terre. Cela a continué jusqu'en 1934 alors que mon père a demandé en mariage sa voisine, Rose Alma. Après quelques années il s'est découragé et a décidé de vendre sa terre et d'acheter la boutique de forge de son frère, Enée, de Donnelly. Vu que mon père aimait bien faire des "patentes", la forge était un bon métier pour lui. Ça rapportait toujours un peu d'argent, bonne chose, car un nouveau bébé arrivait chaque année.

Je me rappelle que Papa devenait bien nerveux quand maman attendait un bébé, surtout quand le temps de la naissance approchait; même quand Victor, le dernier de la famille, est né. Papa était encore plus nerveux, quand il conduisit maman à l'hôpital, et rendu là il



R.1 Lucille, Rita, Germaine, Blanche, Noëlla. R.2 André, Lucien, Raymond, Sylva, Denis, Victor.

s'aperçoit qu'il avait mis ses bas tellement vite qu'il s'était passé le pied à travers le talon et son bas traînait en arrière de sa botte. Imaginez-vous les regards qu'il a dû recevoir quand il se promenait dans le corridor de l'hôpital. C'était le 19 janvier, 40 degré sous zéro et il n'avait pas senti le froid.

Quand ils sont déménagés à Donnelly en 1941, ils avaient cinq enfants et quand ils sont partis, en 1958, la famille comprenait onze enfants. Mon père était bien heureux à son métier de forgeron parce qu'il aimait bien le public, raconter des histoires, jouer des tours et rire.

Maman, elle, était toujours occupée à faire à manger et tenir maison. Elle nous dit qu'elle n'était jamais inquiète de papa, parce qu'elle pouvait l'entendre rire n'importe où dans le village et elle savait toujours où il était.

Dans les années cinquante il décide de retourner coloniser un coin de Whitemud et il fait beaucoup de propagande afin d'attirer ses copains de Donnelly: M. Hervé Johnson, M. Philippe Moquin, M. Richard Lagacé et son neveu Amédée Fortier. Il poussait son idée d'aventure si fort qu'un dimanche matin une affiche "Bureau de colonisation" avait été clouée sur sa boutique de forge durant la nuit. Il en a soupçonné plusieurs pour cette farce mais je crois qu'il n'a jamais su qui était le coupable.

En 1958, il se décide et déménage la maison de Donnelly à Whitemud sur le NW 17-74-21-W5. Il recommence à défricher du terrain avec ses garçons. Même s'il n'était plus forgeron, plusieurs des voisins venaient encore faire souder et réparer leurs machines chez nous.

Papa faisait beaucoup de chasse et maman mettait la viande en conserve, rien n'était gaspillé. Amédée avait une grosse famille lui aussi et souvent on partageait le gibier.

Papa et maman faisaient toujours du spécial pour les fêtes. Au jour de l'An toute la parenté et plusieurs amis de Whitemud venaient souper et passer la veillée. On dansait au son du violon de mes oncles Hormidas et Simon, Lucien à la guitare et Noëlla avec son accordéon. Nous avions toujours quelqu'un qui chantait des petites chansons et d'autres qui nous dansaient une gigue. Du plaisir, ça ne manquait pas dans ces réunions de familles.

Nous avons certainement passé une belle enfance. La gaiété régnait dans notre famille.

Mon père subit une attaque de coeur dans les années soixante alors il décida de vendre son terrain à Lucien et il déménagea à Valleyview. Il ne pouvait pas sortir beaucoup, mais les premières années il allait encore à la ferme presque à tous les jours.

Papa succomba au cancer le 11 décembre 1983. Durant une assez longue maladie son sens de l'humour n'a pas changé et il nous faisait encore rire malgré sa souffrance.

Maman reste toujours à Valleyview; elle se promène quand elle a la chance et se tient occupée au centre d'Age d'Or. Nous la visitons quand nous avons la chance. Elle aime bien jouer aux cartes pour de l'argent. Noëlla et Germaine demeurent à Valleyview et la voient presque à tous les jours. Maman aussi aime bien la visite et quand des anciens amis de Donnelly ou de Guy vont la visiter ça lui fait bien plaisir. Sa grande famille de onze enfants comprend maintenant trente et un petits-enfants et dix-neuf arrière-petits-enfants.

Josephat Fortier: n.14-03-1911 m.31-12-1934 d.11-12-1983

Rose Alma Morin: n. 18-03-1912

ENFANTS:

- 1- André: n. 16-10-1935 m. 26-08-1959
Denise Ouellette. Ils ont cinq enfants.
- 2- Lucien: n. 26-02-1937 m. 09-07-1958
Noëlla Servant. (voir Fortier, Lucien)
- 3- Lucille: n. 23-04-1938 m. 18-07-1956
Jean Gosselin. (voir Gosselin, Jean)
- 4- Rita: n. 11-05-1939 m. 14-05-1957
Lucien Collin. Ils ont cinq enfants.
- 5- Germaine: n. 07-05-1940 m. 22-05-1961
Lorne McKinnon. Une fille.
- 6- Blanche: n. 23-06-1941 m. 25-05-1960
Danny Diemert. Ils ont trois enfants.
- 7- Noëlla: n. 12-05-1943 m. 16-06-1967
Lloyd Lundblad. Ils ont deux enfants.
- 8- Raymond: n. 03-07-1945 m. 12-11-1966
Jocelyne Fortier. Ils ont deux enfants.
- 9- Sylva: n. 03-04-1947 m. 28-12-1969
Dolorès Corriveau. Ils ont un fils.

- 10- Denis: n. 11-08-1949 m. 12-08-1968
Béatrice Corriveau. Ils ont trois enfants.
 11- Victor: n. 19-01-1954 m. 10-08-1975
Jean Mouchewene. Ils ont une fille.

* * *

My father came to the Guy area in 1929 with his father Cyrille and the rest of their family. Like many other settlers, Dad took a homestead and proceeded to clear the timber from the land. This took many years and a lot of hard work to achieve but he still had time to court the neighbor's daughter, Rose Alma Morin. They were married in 1934 and settled on their own land and later bought his brother's blacksmith shop in Donnelly.

Since my father enjoyed dealing with the public and telling stories, the blacksmith shop was a perfect setting for him. Apart from that, it brought in a bit of money – a very good thing since a new baby was born yearly.

In the 1950's, our family moved to the Whitemud area, a new colony south of Guy. Dad made a lot of propaganda about his new colony in order to convince his Donnelly friends to buy land there. He succeeded in attracting such homesteaders as Hervé Johnson, Philippe Moquin, Richard Lagacé and Amédée Fortier. He pushed his adventurous ideas so much that some of his pals placed a sign on his shop which read: "Colonization Office"!

The house was moved to Whitemud in 1958 so Dad and the boys started clearing the new homestead. Though he had officially given up being a blacksmith, many neighbors still availed themselves of his services. Because my father did a lot of hunting and my mother canned the meat, the family was well-fed and often the bounties of the hunt were shared with Amédée and his family.

Family reunions during Christmas time were a happy part of our childhood. Friends and neighbors joined us to sing and dance to the sounds of the violin, the guitar and the accordion. There was never a lack of fun and our childhood days were good.

Dad was struck by a heart attack in the 1960's so he decided to sell his land to Lucien and move into Valleyview. But, he missed the farm so much that he visited nearly every day.

In 1983 Dad suffered a lengthy illness due to cancer. Despite the pain and until his death in December, his sense of humour remained excellent; he could still make us laugh.

Mom is still in Valleyview where she keeps busy at the Golden Age Club. She enjoys visits

from her children, grandchildren and old friends from the Guy and Donnelly areas.

FORTIER, LUCIEN & SERVANT, NOELLA

by Lucien

I was born in Donnelly, second son of Josephat Fortier and Rose Alma Morin, at my uncle's house where my parents were staying for the winter. My first few years were spent on the farm in the Guy area until my father decided to move back to Donnelly to open a Blacksmith Shop. This was in 1941 and at that time money was very scarce; so he would do what he knew best, taking into consideration that in those days a blacksmith was very much in demand as much of the farming was still being done with horses. Later tractors took over, but my father never ran out of work. He could fix almost anything by rebuilding whatever part people could not afford to buy.

We were a large family of eleven children and not too rich, but we always had food. My father was a good hunter and there was a big vegetable garden. My mother would knit all our socks and mitts with her knitting machine. She kept us clothed with second-hand clothes that she would make over. Mom was always busy doing something.



R.1 Lucien et Noëlla. R.2 Paul, Doris, Richard.

I went to school in Donnelly until I was fifteen. My school years were quite enjoyable. The Sisters of the Holy Cross made sure that we were kept in line. When I was a teenager, you didn't need money to have fun. We skated in winter and played ball in summer. Other times we simply rounded up enough people, usually it didn't take long, even though we had no phone. Those who could play a musical instrument would bring it along. A \$5.00 jug of cheap wine

was somehow obtained, and a fun evening of dancing and singing was enjoyed by all. These were also the days when you could go to a movie for .50 cents and buy popcorn for .10 cents.

After I quit school, I started working with my father in his shop. This is how I learned to weld and build parts for machinery. In the fifties, I started working out in lumber camps during the winter. I learned the trade of sawyer which I did for many years afterwards. In 1958 I decided to settle down, so I married Noëlla Servant, daughter of Delphis Servant and Rose Guay, from Lac Magloire. Our wedding dance was held at Edgehill Hall.

At about the same time, my father had the farming bug again so we leased some land in the Whitemud area, the SW 17- 74-21-W5M. In October, 1958, we moved the house from Donnelly to Whitemud, now that the Smoky River bridge was built. We all enjoyed the farm. This was a novelty to us opening land, raising pigs, and milking cows. I was starting a family of my own, and it was not always easy. I had to go work out in winter in lumber camps to start farming on my own. After a few years of this, my wife had to stay home because of the school children. In 1967, I bought my father's farm when he retired to Valleyview due to illness. I continued to farm for a few years, then sold my farm to Elphège Boulet and moved closer to Guy where we still are to-day. I then started a land clearing business along with my two sons.

We really enjoyed good friends and neighbours in Whitemud. Precious memories will always be with us. Our three children went to Langlois School in Guy and to G.P. Vanier High in Donnelly.

Lucien Fortier: n. 26-02-1937

m. 09-07-1958

Noëlla Servant: n. 26-11-1941

CHILDREN:

1- Lucien: n. 1960
d. at birth

2- Paul: n. 28-10-1961
m. 13-12-1980

Noëlla Gagnon: n. 09-05-1964

a) Shane: n. 21-04-1981

b) Randy: 28-09-1982

3- Richard: n. 19-02-1963
m. 03-09-1983

Diane Gour: n. 26-06-1967

a) Cheryl: n. 18-02-1985

4- Suzanne: n. 1964
d. at birth

5- Doris: n. 13-11-1967

* * *

Second fils de Joséphat Fortier et Rose-Alma Morin, je suis né à Donnelly dans la maison de mon oncle où mes parents devaient passer l'hiver.

J'ai vécu les premières années de ma vie sur la ferme à Guy jusqu'à ce que mon père ait décidé de retourner vivre à Donnelly pour y ouvrir une boutique de forge. C'était en 1941 et à l'époque, il n'y avait pas beaucoup d'argent. Donc il cru bon de se lancer dans le métier qu'il connaissait le mieux—celui de forgeron—d'autant plus que le travail à la ferme se faisait encore avec les chevaux. Malgré que les tracteurs vinrent remplacer les chevaux, mon père ne fut jamais sans travail, car il était très habile à façonner des pièces de tous genres, que les gens n'avaient pas les moyens d'acheter neuves.

Après avoir quitté l'école, j'ai travaillé avec mon père dans sa boutique. C'est là que j'appris le métier de soudeur et à confectionner des pièces pour les machines. Durant les années 50 je commençai à travailler aux chantiers durant l'hiver et j'appris le métier de scieur que je pratiquai pendant plusieurs années.

En 1958, j'épousai Noëlla Servant, fille de Delphis Servant et Rose Guay du Lac Magloire. Les noces eurent lieu à la salle Edgehill.

Mon père décida alors de retourner sur la terre, puis il obtint une concession dans la région de Whitemud. Le pont de la petite rivière Smoky étant construit, nous transportions notre maison familiale de Donnelly à Whitemud. Nous aimions la ferme. C'était tout nouveau pour nous, défricher la terre, élever des porcs et traire des vaches.

J'avais une petite famille et la vie n'était pas facile. Je devais aller travailler aux chantiers en hiver afin de pouvoir commencer ma ferme à moi. Eventuellement mon épouse a dû rester à la maison pour envoyer les enfants à l'école.

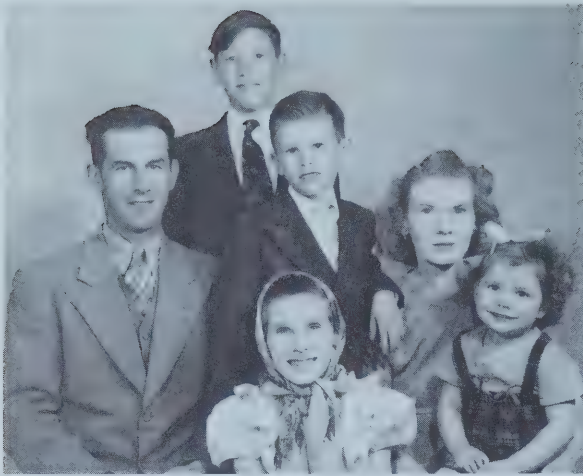
En 1967, j'achetai la ferme de mon père qui avait pris retraite à Valleyview à cause de sa santé précaire.

Je demeurai sur la ferme pour quelques années encore. Enfin je la vendis à Elphège Boulet et je m'en allai vivre plus près de Guy. Par la suite je commençai une entreprise de défrichement avec mes deux fils. Nous aimions bien nos voisins à Whitemud. Nous en gardons de bons souvenirs.

FORTIER, ODILON & MORIN, FERNANDE

par Berthe Cloutier

Odilon, fils de Cyrille Fortier et Clarina Latulipe, est né à Ste-Rose de Watford, P.Q., le 26 février 1910.



R.1 Lucienne, Lynn. R.2 Odilon, Raymond, Fernande. R.3 Guy.

Pendant sa jeunesse au Québec il travaillait au chantier et sur la drave.

A dix-neuf ans il vient dans le nord de l'Alberta avec ses parents. Odilon et Joséphat son frère prirent chacun un "homestead" sur la section 22-76-21-W5, voisin un de l'autre, et bâtirent un "shack" en bois rond sur la ligne entre les deux terres.

Après leur mariage Odilon et Fernande habitèrent la petite maison de bois rond avec Joséphat et Rose Alma, soeur de Fernande.

Le 27 juillet 1936, Odilon épouse Fernande Morin fille de Wilfrid Morin et Rosa Anna Breton. Le malheur frappe le couple tôt, dans les premières années de leur mariage, car ils perdent deux petites jumelles quelques heures après leur naissance et un petit garçon l'année suivante.

A l'automne 1941 un feu s'échappa du champ du voisin à l'ouest et brûla la récolte, le poulailler avec les poules et les dindes, et même le linge étendu sur la corde à linge mais heureusement la maison fut épargnée comme par miracle.

Avec toutes ces malchances et la crise économique le jeune couple n'était pas riche. Odilon aime raconter qu'il attendait que les poules pondent pour les crêpes du déjeuner et qu'un jour il n'y avait pas d'oeufs, alors il a tordu le cou à l'une de ses poules et ce fut du "fricot" pour le repas!

L'esprit d'entraide qui existait ces années-là a tout de même allégé les misères. Le père Cyrille et la belle-mère Alma apportait de belles miches de bons pains frais et d'autre gâteries tout en allant les visiter.

En 1942, Odilon partit avec sa famille pour

aller travailler sur la construction de la route de l'Alaska et ils demeurèrent à Cut Bank, C.B., à vingt milles au nord de Dawson Creek, C.B.

En 1948 ils déménagèrent à Whitehorse, Yukon où Odilon travaillait pour R.C.M.E. (Radar Control Military Emergency), poste qu'il occupa quinze ans, tant qu'il ne fut pas atteint d'une crise cardiaque. Ils ont été alors obligés de revenir à Dawson Creek, car Odilon est devenu invalide. Fernande trouva du travail comme cuisinière à l'hôpital de Dawson Creek tout en prenant soin de son époux. Une autre tragédie frappa la famille en 1966 alors que leur fils aîné, âgé de vingt-six ans, mourut dans un accident de travail au barrage-réservoir de Hudson Hope, C.B.

Fernande dit: "J'aime à revenir dans la région au moins une fois par année; le contact avec les amis et parents renouvelle mon courage". Nos parents Morin et Fortier nous ont montré par leur exemple que l'amour est la clef d'une vie réussie.

Odilon et Fernande ont célébré leurs noces d'or le 27 juillet 1986, avec une grande joie, entourés de beaucoup de parents et d'amis.

Odilon Fortier: n. 26-02-1910 m. 27-07-1936

Fernande Morin: n. 10-02-1918

ENFANTS:

1- Guy: n. 04-03-1939 m. 1959 d. -07-1966 Delphine Pelletier. Ils ont cinq enfants, Lee, Wayne, Brenda, Dean et Jody.

2- Lucienne: n. 01-03-1941 m. 19-12-1957 Dale George. Ils ont quatre enfants, Steven, Monique, Wonda et Leira.

3- Raymond: n. 21-06-1945 m. 26-08-1967 M. Thea Van Uden. Enfants: Derrick, Tanya, jumeaux Shawn et Stacy, Travis (d).

4- Lynn: n. 20-07-1948 m.

Tony Van Udan.

Tous les enfants de Odilon et Fernande demeurèrent à Dawson Creek.

* * *

At the age of nineteen years, Odilon came to Northern Alberta from Québec with his parents Cyrille and Clarina. He and his brother Josephat each took a homestead neighboring each other and built a shack on the line separating the two properties.

In 1936, Odilon married Fernande Morin and moved into a log cabin with Josephat and his wife Rose-Alma, a sister to Fernande.

Early in their marriage, they suffered two tragedies: the death of twin daughters at birth and of a son the year after. Soon after, a fire burned their crop, their chicken coop and even

the clothing hanging on the line to dry. With all these bouts of bad luck and an economic depression to contend with, this couple was by no means rich. Odilon likes to tell this tale about the hard times: "We waited for the hens to lay in order to have breakfast each morning. One day there were no eggs so I choked one of those hens and we had chicken stew for that meal!" Fortunately, a helping hand was always present to minimize the miseries of these times. Odilon's parents often came to visit, bringing with them freshly-baked bread and other goodies.

In 1942, Odilon moved his family near Dawson Creek while he worked on the construction of the Alaska Highway. From 1948 to 1963 the Fortier family lived in Whitehorse where Odilon was employed by Radar Control Military Emergency. After suffering a heart attack, Odilon along with Fernande, returned to Dawson Creek. Tragedy struck again in 1966! Their eldest son was killed on the job at the Hudson Hope Dam.

In 1986, Odilon and Fernande, surrounded by friends and relatives, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Fernande tells us: "I like to return to the Guy area at least once a year; the contact with family and friends always boosts my morale."

FORTIER, RENE (ENEE) & CORMIER, BERNADETTE

by daughter Lauraine Biech

Born: December 8, 1913 Ste-Rose, Dorchester, P.Q.

Parents: Cyrille Fortier – father Clara Latulippe – mother.

At the age of 12 years, he came to Falher, Alberta, to live and work on the farm with his uncle Joe.



Joyce, Bernadette, Enée, Loraine Fortier.

Around the age of 21 years he left the farm to open his own blacksmith shop in Donnelly, Alberta.

On February 14, 1942 he married Bernadette Cormier.

Shortly after their marriage they moved to High Prairie, Alberta, where he was employed as a mechanic for McGee Motors.

Their two daughters, Lauraine (Lloyd) Biech, and Jacqueline (Raymond) Fortier both reside in Prince George, B.C.

In 1952 the family moved to Prince George, B.C. He was very well known for his old time fiddling music.

He had a band called "The Fraser River Ramblers" and played in Prince George and throughout parts of B.C. for over 20 years. He is well remembered for his composition of the "Centennial Waltz" for B.C.'s centennial year in 1958.

He worked as a mechanic until his death, October 20, 1974.

CENTENNIAL WALTZ

MUSIC BY ERNIE FORTIER

ARRANGED BY A. MANZINOJA



Ernie Fortier-violin, Joyce Fortier-piano, Lorrie Fortier-violin



Violon d'Enée Fortier.

A douze ans, Enée arrivait à Falher pour travailler sur la ferme avec son oncle Joe.

Quand il eut atteint ses vingt et un ans il quitta la ferme pour établir une boutique de forge à Donnelly.

Le 14 février 1942, il épousait Bernadette Cormier. Peu après, ils s'installèrent à High Prairie où Enée travailla comme mécanicien pour McGee Motors.

En 1952, la famille y comprit les deux filles s'en allait demeurer à Prince George, C.B. Enée était bien connu pour la musique du bon vieux temps qu'il jouait sur son violon.

Il organisa une troupe de musicien nommé "The Fraser River Ramblers" qui s'exécutait partout en Colombie Britannique pendant vingt ans. On se souviendra longtemps de sa composition "The Centennial Waltz" à l'occasion de l'année du centenaire de 1958.

Il exerça son métier de mécanicien jusqu'à sa mort, le 20 octobre 1974.

FORTIER, SIMON & CLICHE, THERESE

par Thérèse Fortier

Simon est né à Ste-Rose, Québec le 28-01-1918. Il arriva à Guy avec ses parents, trois frères et trois soeurs, en avril 1929. Trois de ses frères étaient déjà arrivés. Il avait dix ans.

Comme il ne parlait pas un mot d'anglais il recommença l'école en première année. Qu'est-ce qu'un enfant de dix ans fait en première année, quand il sait déjà compter, lire et écrire? Je crois que c'est là que Simon a commencé à s'appliquer à faire rire les autres. Imaginez s'ils avaient donné des diplômes pour ça! Rendu en troisième année il en eut assez et quitta l'école.

Là ce n'était pas si comique; Simon a commencé à ramasser des racines et à travailler sur la terre.

A dix-sept ans il tomba malade, et dut aller à l'hôpital, où il fut opéré pour une appendicite. Dans ce temps-là une personne restait au lit pendant neuf jours. Simon, qui n'était pas capable de rester tranquille se faisait donner tous les papiers de plomb dans les paquets de cigarette. Il formait comme un petit calice avec ça, et les soufflait au plafond. Un matin, la garde-malade entre dans sa chambre pour découvrir le plafond tout décoré. Je ne sais pas si c'est ça la raison, mais après cela, il a été cinquante ans sans retourner à l'hôpital.

Son père n'était pas si chanceux. Sa santé se détériora tout le temps. Les remèdes et les voyages en ville coûtaient cher et l'argent était rare.



R.1 Diane, cousin Roger. R.2 Simon et Thérèse Fortier.

Ils ont été obligés de vendre tous les animaux et d'hypothéquer la ferme. Il est mort en février 1938, après quatre ans de souffrance.

Simon avait vingt ans. Il prit la ferme, recommença l'élevage des cochons; il essaya de son mieux et réussit à payer toutes les dettes. Avec lui restaient sa mère, son grand-père, ses soeurs Emilienne et Marie-Berthe. Ensuite au chagrin de sa mère, il fut appelé pour l'armée. Mais avec ses responsabilités à la ferme il fut exempté de l'armée et ne fit qu'un mois d'entraînement.

Entre l'ouvrage, il trouva toujours le temps de jouer du violon. Il a joué pendant sept ans pour les soirées de danse à l'école Edgehill. La paye était de 7,00 \$ par soir et souvent il jouait jusqu'au matin. Les revenus allaient pour bâtir une salle à Edgehill.

Le 29 octobre 1951, il se maria avec Thérèse Cliche. En remerciement des heures dépensées à jouer de la musique pour le public nous avons eu la salle gratuitement pour le "shower" et la danse de noces.

Ce que l'on trouvait le pire dans ce temps-là, c'était de ne pas avoir l'eau courante, et les mauvais chemins. Souvent il fallait accrocher le camion au tracteur pour se rendre sur le bon chemin. Cela n'était pas bien drôle surtout avec une charge de cochons. Simon a aussi acheté une demi-section de ses voisins.

Diane est née le 10 mars 1955. Même si elle était la seule enfant, elle ne connaissait pas l'ennui. Ses cousins et cousines (enfants d'Hor-midas Fortier) venaient presque tous les jours.



Simon Fortier avec ses chevaux.

Quelqu'un lui avait demandé si elle aimerait avoir un petit frère ou une petite soeur, et elle avait répondu qu'elle avait Roger, qu'elle considère encore comme un frère. Elle fréquenta l'école de Guy jusqu'en neuvième année et ensuite celle à Donnelly.

Simon vendit les terres en 1974. Il déménagea à Falher, où il demeure avec sa famille. Le séjour à Guy sera toujours le plus important de sa vie.

Simon Fortier: n. 28-01-1918 m. 29-10-1951

Thérèse Cliche: n. 21-04-1928

ENFANT:

1- Diane: n. 10-03-1955 m. 10-11-1979

Larry Wilson

* * *

Simon arrived in Guy at the age of ten with his parents, three brothers and three sisters in April 1929. Three of his brothers were here already.

As he couldn't speak a word of english he had to start school from grade one. He already knew how to count, read and write. He started to make others laugh. When he reached grade three he had enough of school so he left.

Simon started work by picking roots and cultivating the soil.

At seventeen he got sick, went to the hospital, was operated for appendicitis. In those days one had to stay in bed for nine days.

His dad was sickly and his health deteriorated. Medication and trips to the city cost a lot of money and money was scarce.

They had to sell all the livestock and run into debt. He died in February 1938 after four years of suffering.

Simon was twenty. He took the farm and started raising hogs. He tried his best and succeeded in paying off debts. His mother,

grandfather, his sisters Emilienne and Marie Berthe all stayed with him. To his mother's dismay, he was summoned by the army but because of his responsibilities he was exempted and did but a month's training.

Between work, he found time to play the violon. He played for seven years for dances at the Edgehill school. The pay was 7,00 \$ a night and often he played till morn. The revenues were towards building a hall at Edgehill.

In 1951 he married Thérèse Cliche. In appreciation for his many hours of music, the couple had the hall free for their shower and their wedding dance.

What was worse in those days was not having running water and poor roads. Often one had to pull the truck with the tractor in order to get to the good road. This was even worse with a load of hogs. Simon also bought a half-section from his neighbors.

Diane was born in 1955. Although she was the only child, she was never lonesome. Her cousins (children of Hormidas Fortier) came nearly every day. She went to school in Guy up to grade nine and then in Donnelly.

Simon sold his land in 1974. He moved to Falher where he lives with his family. His stay in Guy will always remain the most important in his life.

FORTIER, THEOPHILE

par Berthe Cloutier

Théophile, fils de Cyrille Fortier et de Fleurida Turcotte est né le 6 janvier 1900, à Ste-Rose de Watford, P.Q.

Il était célibataire et travaillait dans les chantiers et sur la drave au Québec. Il était aussi bon chasseur.

En 1927 il vint s'installer sur une terre à cinq milles au nord de Guy avec son frère Hormidas. Ils ont ouvert leur terrain et bâti un petit "shack" de log.

Théophile était gêné et tranquille mais avait bon coeur. Je pourrais dire de lui ce qu'on dit de "Twelve Foot Davis: Il était l'ami de tout le monde et n'a jamais fermé à clé la porte de sa chaumière." Oui, il partageait avec ses amis et voisins les produits de sa chasse.

Il est décédé le 9 juillet 1935 à l'âge de 35 ans.

* * *

Théophile, a bachelor from the province of Québec, came to Guy with his brother Hormidas in 1927.

The brothers settled on a farm five miles

north of Guy where they cleared the land and built a log shack.

A quiet and timid man with a heart of gold, Théophile shared the bounties of his hunt with neighbors and friends. One can say of him, as they did of Twelve Foot Davis: "He was a friend to all and his door was open to all."

Théophile died on July 9, 1935 at the early age of thirty-five years.

FOURNIER, ARSENE

par Gilberte Lemay

Venu des provinces de l'est du Canada, M. Fournier prit le "homestead" S.E. 26-75-21. C'était un célibataire, homme tranquille et sérieux mais il aimait rencontrer du monde et jouer aux cartes. Deux fois la semaine, il ne manquait pas d'aller à pied, le soir, chercher son courrier au bureau de poste de Forest View et en même temps en profitait pour jouer quelques parties de cartes avec la famille Lambert, et son ami M. Gingras.

Il travailla fort pour défricher sa terre et la cultiver. Il travailla aussi trois ans pour M. Rochon à Falher. Après, il alla travailler quelques temps à la Mission de Calais à Sturgeon Lake.

Plus tard il vendit sa terre au Docteur Bouilly et retourna dans l'Est. Aujourd'hui cette terre appartient à René Bourgeois.

* * *

Coming from eastern Canada, Mr. Fournier took a homestead in Guy. He was single, a quiet and serious man who enjoyed meeting people and playing cards. Twice a week he would walk to the Forest View post office at night to get his mail and would take this opportunity to play cards with the Lambert family, his friends and Mr. Gingras.

He worked very hard to open his land and to farm. He also worked three years for Mr. Rochon in Falher. After that, he went to work for some time at the Calais mission at Sturgeon Lake.

Later on he sold his land to Dr. Bouilly and returned East. Today his land belongs to René Bourgeois.

FULTON, WILGUS & GODFREY, MARCELLA ANN

by Ann Fulton

Wilgus Oliver Fulton was born in Texas, U.S.A. Since he was the 4th generation to be born in that state, his family helped to form its history. There were many colorful characters in his

family. On his father's side was the famous lawman, Pat Garrett, who shot and killed the notorious "Billy the Kid". On his mother's side, although not as respected but equally as colorful was the hired gunman "Gentleman" Jim Miller, who ironically enough killed Pat Garrett. Wilgus lived in several states, farming and driving trucks before moving to Canada.

Marcella Ann (Godfrey) Fulton was born and raised in Southern Alberta, the granddaughter of early pioneers in that area. The Fultons moved to Guy in 1973 where they farm and ranch. Wilgus had four children from a previous marriage, Judy Carol, Brenda Kay, John Andrew and Iva Lee. Andy and Iva were still living at home when the family moved to the Guy area. Andy is now living in Edmonton and Iva Lee lives in Salt Prairie, she has three children. Wilgus and Ann had one daughter, Jody Ann. They also have had several foster children: Rose Badger, Rosalie Laboucan, Lorna and Audrey Isadore, Margaret Sowan, Dennis Letendre, and still living at home Liza Roberts.



Ann Fulton with Pomeranian Champion Chinookwinds Cariboo Moonglow. The judge is Nigel Aubrey-Jones.

The family has been very involved with the training and showing of the various animals they raise on the farm. Jody and Liza still take an active interest in the horses, competing in Gymkanas and local fairs. Jody went to Olds College where she was chosen to be a member of the Equestrian Team, representing the College. She competed at several horse shows including Spruce Meadows.

Ann's interest is in showing and training dogs. Under the kennel name "Chinookwinds" she has raised and shown several American and Canadian Champions.

Ann and Lynn Langlois bought the store in

Tangent which they co-owned for five years, until Ann's parents, Buddy and Joe Godfrey, bought Lynn's share. They sold the store in 1985.

As well as farming and raising cattle, Wilgus has stayed active in the trucking business. Since early in 1986, he has been trucking in the United States; Ann and the girls run the farm.

* * *

Les Fultons arrivèrent à Guy en 1973 où ils cultivèrent et firent de l'élevage. Wilgus avait quatre enfants d'un premier mariage, Judy Carol, Brenda Kay, John Andrew et Iva Lee. Ces deux derniers étaient encore à la maison quand la famille déménagea à Guy. Wilgus et Ann ont eu une fille, Jody Ann. Ils ont aussi plusieurs enfants parrainés: Rose Badger, Rosalie Laboucan, Lorna et Audrey Isadore, Margaret Sowan, Dennis Letendre et une qui reste encore à la maison, Liza Roberts.

Jody et Liza maintiennent un intérêt soutenu pour les chevaux, faisant compétition dans les Gymkanas et les foires locales. Ann et Lynn Langlois ont acheté un magasin à Tangent dont ils ont été co-propriétaires pendant cinq ans jusqu'à ce que les parents d'Ann, Buddy et Joe Godfrey achetèrent sa part.

Tout en étant actif dans la culture et l'élevage d'animaux, Wilgus est toujours camionneur. Depuis le début de 1986, il a fait du camionnage aux Etats-Unis.

FURGESON, FRED & PARENTEAU, GERTRUDE

by Gertrude as told to Cecile Aubin

Fred, son of Jessie Furgeson and Mary Ramsay of Andalusia, Illinois, U.S.A., was born December 2, 1912.

In 1927 the family heard of the cheap land available in the Peace River district of Canada so decided to "find the gold at the end of the rainbow", as Fred says. The trip became a one year affair. After buying an older truck the family set out for Canada. When they reached Edmonton the mother and girls took the train to Peace River as it was getting quite cold. The men continued with their old truck to Widewater, AB., where they were snowed under and had to spend the winter in an old shack. Seeing this the women left Peace River to spend the winter in Widewater with the rest of the family. In mid April, the next spring, they again tried their luck and travelled on the ice of the Slave Lake to Grouard then to Peace River by the Grouard trail.

Fred soon filed for a homestead in the Weberville area, married Mabel Biggs and raised

six children. After his wife died and the children had grown he moved to Grande Prairie to work. It is at this time that he met and married Gertrude Parenteau.

Gertrude, daughter of Albin Parenteau and Angelina Tetrault of St. Pierre, Manitoba, was born November 20, 1923. She also had been married when she met Fred, and had raised her eight children.

Fred obtained work as a grader operator and worked in Snipe Lake and Goose River, AB., moving in 1972 to W ½-23-74-20-W5M., with his wife Gertrude and son Glen.

In 1974 Fred retired to enjoy his hobbies: working in the greenhouse, cutting firewood and making good use of it in his furnace and supervising the activities around the farm and yard.

I, Gertrude have been operating the Little River Greenhouse and have expanded it three times already. Come spring we supply the area with flowers and vegetables plants. I always marvel at the new green shoots every March and thoroughly enjoy the smells of the damp soil and plants. This enterprise was started as a hobby but has become a business. This spring we are thinking of leaving Glen and his wife Barbara in charge of the operation even though we will be available to advise and help whenever needed. We love that work and are happy that the young people have taken an interest in our "Little River Greenhouse". It therefore continues to be a rewarding family operation.

Fred Furgeson: n.02-12-1912

1m. Mabel Biggs

2m. Gertrude Parenteau

CHILDREN:

1- Glen: n.14-10-1961 m.25-05-1979

Barbara Eldridge: n.16-02-1962

a) Amanda: n.02-09-1981

b) Josie: n.20-02-1984

* * *

En 1927, la famille de Fred apprit qu'il y avait du terrain à bon marché dans le district de Rivière La Paix alors elle décida d'y venir.

Le trajet devint une entreprise d'un an. Après avoir acheté un camion usagé la famille partit de l'Illinois, E.U., pour venir au Canada. Arrivant à Edmonton la mère et les filles prirent le train pour Rivière La Paix puisqu'il commençait à faire froid. Les hommes continuèrent avec le vieux camion jusqu'à Widewater, AB., où ils furent envahis par la neige et durent passer l'hiver dans un "shack" en bois rond. Apprenant ceci, les femmes quittèrent Peace River pour Widewater afin de passer l'hiver

avec le reste de la famille. A la mi-avril ils tentèrent encore de partir, voyageant cette fois sur la glace du Lac des Esclaves jusqu'à Grouard, ensuite à Peace River par le sentier de Grouard.

Fred prit un "homestead" dans la région de Weberville, épousa Mabel Biggs et éleva six enfants. Après le décès de sa femme et que les enfants furent grands, il déménagea à Grande Prairie afin d'y travailler. C'est à ce temps qu'il rencontra et épousa Gertrude Parenteau.

Gertrude avait aussi été mariée quand elle rencontra Fred, et avait élevé ses huit enfants.

Fred obtint du travail comme opérateur d'une niveleuse et travailla à Snipe Lake et Goose River, AB., déménageant sur une terre en 1972 avec sa femme et son fils Glen.

En 1974, Fred se retira pour profiter de ses passe-temps.

Moi, Gertrude, je m'occupe de notre serre, la "Little River Greenhouse" bâtie sur notre ferme en 1979. Nous l'avons agrandie trois fois. Quand vient le printemps nous fournissons les environs de plantes, de fleurs et de légumes. Cette entreprise a débuté comme passe-temps mais a évolué en une bonne affaire. Au printemps nous pensons laisser l'entreprise à Glen et à sa femme Barbara. Nous aimons ce travail et sommes heureux que les jeunes s'y intéressent; ce qui devient ainsi une opération familiale gratifiante.

GAGNE, (ARCHIE) ARCHELAS LAFLEUR, CHANTAL

par Archie

Archelas Gagné est le fils d'Archelas Gagné et de Lydia Chabot. Je suis né à Ste-Sabine Cté de Bellechasse P.Q. le 29 mai 1927. Je n'ai jamais connu mon père car il est mort avant ma naissance. Ma mère se maria en secondes noces avec Ernest Gosselin. J'ai reçu mon éducation au Québec, fréquentant l'école jusqu'au temps où mon beau-père décida de s'aventurer pour l'Ouest, convaincu par M. l'abbé St-Pierre qu'il y avait de l'avenir en Alberta. Nous partions de St-Paul du Button cté Montmagny, en camion acheté pour faire le voyage.

On arrive à Guy le 24 mai 1941; je n'avais que 13 ans. Par après ma mère décide de m'envoyer à l'école de Donnelly où je devais pensionner chez M. Edouard Cimon; l'entente était que je devais traire les vaches et aider sur la ferme après l'école afin de gagner ma pension. Comme je m'ennuyais de chez-nous et que l'école ne m'intéressait pas trop j'y suis resté seulement que six semaines. Je retourne à la maison et parce que ma mère était malade et

mon beau-père au travail je passai l'hiver à faire les corvées domestiques.

Ensuite je commençais à travailler dans les chantiers. Quand j'ai eu 19 ans, en 1946, j'ai été travailler dans les missions à Calais (Sturgeon Lake) pour à peu près un an.

A vingt ans je fus engagé par M. Raoul Lambert et je travaillait à la ferme l'été et passais l'hiver dans les chantiers. C'est là que je subis un accident: en versant de l'essence avec une chaudière dans un tracteur qui était encore chaud, il y a eu une explosion. J'ai été brûlé. J'ai dû passer quatre mois à l'hôpital de McLennan; à ce temps, la médecine n'était pas aussi avancé pour le traitement de brûlures, donc j'ai beaucoup souffert; miraculeusement je m'en suis sorti avec une bonne santé, ayant passé un an par la suite sans pouvoir travailler. Je retourne aux chantiers pour Raoul Lambert encore quelques années et au printemps 1954 je me rendais au Québec visiter ma parenté et anciens amis. J'ai travaillé quelques temps à Chibougamau mais le genre d'ouvrage ne me plaisait pas, alors je revins à Guy à l'automne pour y rester. J'ai ensuite travaillé jusqu'aux années soixante chez M. Wilfrid Bisson et Bisson Bros, sur la ferme l'été et l'hiver comme chauffeur de camion.

Ensuite, j'ai travaillé pour Stephanus Soucy à Girouxville, Réal Beaudoin de Slave Lake. J'ai fait ma demeure à Slave Lake. Je suis maintenant au repos forcé à cause de trouble cardiaque. Je pense à ma jeunesse; elle s'est passée avec beaucoup d'agrément malgré tout. J'aimais bien le plaisir. On s'amusait même si on n'avait pas beaucoup d'argent.

Les jeunes se rencontraient dans les veillées familiales ou paroissiales; les chaperons étaient à la mode dans mon temps et si quelqu'un faisait un pas de travers il en entendait parler, ce n'était pas long; un peu de temps après toute la paroisse était au courant de ce qui était arrivé. Il fallait marcher en ligne droite ou ne pas se faire prendre en défauts!

La vie continue et tout s'arrange. J'ai rencontré ma femme, Chantal Lafleur, fille de Moïse Lafleur aussi de Guy. Nous aimons la pêche et le camping et nous venons visiter notre parenté à Guy de temps en temps.

Archelas Gagné: n. 29-05-1927 m. 05-11-1982
Chantal Lafleur: n. 05-02-1929

* * *

I arrived in Guy at the age of thirteen years, on May 24, 1941, having travelled from Québec by truck with my mother Lydia and my step-

father Ernest Gosselin. Shortly after our arrival, my mother decided to send me to school in Donnelly where I boarded at the home of Mr. Edouard Cimon. I was soon homesick and because going to school did not interest me, I only stayed for six weeks. Besides, my help was needed at home since my mother was sick.

Later, I started to work in lumber camps. At the age of nineteen, in 1946, I went to work at the Calais (Sturgeon Lake) Mission for about a year.

At the age of twenty, I went to work for Mr. Raoul Lambert. In the summer I worked on the farm and spent the winter months in his camps. There, a gasoline explosion caused me severe burns so I spent four months in hospital and one year without working.

In 1954 I returned to Québec where I worked for a while. Since the job there wasn't to my liking, I returned to Guy in the fall and went to work for Bisson Brothers until the 1960's.

Later, I worked for Stephanus Soucy in Girouxville and for Réal Beaudoin in Slave Lake where I am still living. I am retired due to heart problems. Often I think of my youth and realize how good it was despite all the hardships. We had many good times despite our lack of money. The young people would get together at parish or family reunions and have a great time! The chaperons at these parties really made us toe the line.

My wife Chantal (Lafleur), is also from the Guy area. We enjoy fishing, camping and visiting our relatives in Guy from time to time.

GAGNE, ARMAND & LAFLEUR, AURORE

par Françoise Gagné-Dechief

Mon père est né à St-Jean D'Hébertville, Lac St. Jean, P.Q. le 29 mars 1902. Il était très fier d'être un "ventre bleu". Etant aventurier, il commença à voyager jeune. Avant de se marier, il avait déjà traversé le Canada de Terre Neuve à Vancouver et avait passé un an en Saskatchewan pour travailler aux battages et apprendre l'anglais. C'est là qu'il prit goût à ce beau pays aux plaines immenses.

Ma mère est née à L'Ascension, Cté Labelle, P.Q. le 1 août 1907. Comme jeune fille, elle a travaillé dans des manufactures de lainage et de caoutchouc. Plus tard, elle faisait de la couture pour les dames de la haute société à Amos. Sa famille est déménagée plusieurs fois dans les provinces de Québec et d'Ontario.

C'est à Opasatika que se sont mariés mes parents le 27 juillet 1935. Le bois était la principale industrie dans cette partie de l'Ontario. Comme les temps étaient durs, ils ont décidé de déménager dans l'ouest pour faire la culture. Ils



Aurore & Armand Gagné.

décident alors de vendre leur maison à Opasatika et d'entreprendre le voyage.

Après avoir organisé un groupe de colons qui voulaient tous déménager dans l'ouest, mes parents et leur cinq enfants se trouvent à Guy en automne 1943. Maman et les enfants passent l'hiver dans la cour de M. Ernest Gosselin et Ernest, l'ainé, va à l'école Benoît. Papa, lui, passe l'hiver au chantier.

Le printemps suivant, le jour du Jeudi Saint, la famille peut habiter leur premier "shack", construit dans une journée, sur le terrain SW6-76-20-W5. Papa et les voisins se sont rassemblés dès le matin pour commencer la construction. Le soir venu, quelques uns des hommes sont allés à l'office religieux du Jeudi Saint et les autres sont restés pour finir les derniers travaux de construction et la famille put entrer dans sa nouvelle demeure. On y mit des couvertures aux fenêtres et à la porte car celles-ci ne furent installées que le lendemain.

Aussitôt la maison finie la famille se met aux travaux du printemps. Maman fit son premier jardin qui était clôturé avec de gros troncs d'arbres à la longueur. Pour elle c'était une nouvelle expérience. Elle s'était toujours occupée à la couture, le raccommodage et au tricot comme jeune fille – ce qui prenait tout son temps; et dans le nord de l'Ontario le climat n'était pas favorable au jardinage. Tout de même, ce fut une réussite. Elle eut une belle récolte de concombres et de tomates.

Papa, lui s'était mis au défrichage. Un bon avant-midi, on se rend compte qu'il y avait de la boucane dans l'air. Ce fut bientôt évident qu'il y avait un feu de forêt au nord de la maison. Papa, qui travaillait à l'est de là,



La famille Armand Gagné: R.1 Françoise, Bibiane. R.2 Maurice, Lorraine, Roseline. R.3 Normand, Ernest, Aurore et Armand.

ayant vu cette boucane a vite constaté que c'était chez-nous. Heureusement qu'il était près du puits et qu'il avait avec lui son tombereau et les barils avec lesquels il rapportait l'eau pour la maison tous les soirs. Il attela vite la jument "Betsey", remplit ses barils d'eau et fila à la maison. En peu de temps, les voisins arrivèrent eux aussi avec de l'eau et des pelles etc... pour battre le feu. A un moment donné, la boucane fut si épaisse qu'il fallut allumer la lampe pour voir clair dans la maison. Dieu merci, le soir venu, le feu était contrôlé. Les voisins sont retournés chez eux morts de fatigue. Inutile de dire que maman dort légèrement ce soir-là!

Après cinq ans, les choses avaient déjà changé. Dans la cour on voit une écurie en croûte, une grainerie et une bonne glacière. Les enfants ont grandi, deux petites sont venues agrandir la famille, alors...une maison neuve, plus grande bien sûr! Trois ans plus tard, le petit "shack" est convertie en magasin. Cette entreprise fut vite abandonnée parce que ça occasionnait trop de perte de temps pendant les temps occupés à la ferme.

Pendant ce temps, Papa s'était déjà mis en train d'organiser une école au village. Il dépensa bien des heures à faire les démarches nécessaires: lettres, pétitions, voyages. Ensuite il fallait voir à l'embauchement des professeurs, aux finances et à la continuité. Toutes les décisions devaient être faites par le conseil en nombreuses réunions. La prochaine entreprise fut de faire venir les Soeurs de Sainte Croix comme institutrices.

Le Rev. Père Lechasseur, très actif aussi dans les affaires scolaires, apporta son aide précieuse au projet. Plus tard, le conseil scolaire décide de joindre la Grande Division de High Prairie pour pouvoir mieux profiter de l'aide du gouvernement. Il fallait s'assurer de garder assez d'autonomie pour conserver le français et la religion dans les classes.



Armand and Aurore Gagné's farm.

Entre temps, on défrichait la terre. Les souches devaient être arrachées à la main avec une hache et notre bonne petite "Betsey". Quand il faisait brûler des tas, Papa oubliait l'heure. Il rentrait aux petites heures du matin et disait comme il faisait bon de guetter le feu dans l'air calme de la nuit. Les garçons ont commencé jeunes à donner main forte aux travaux de la terre et plus tard aux chantiers – travail auquel ils se sont tous occupés pendant bien des années. Les deux filles plus âgées aussi assistaient au travail de la maison, aux cannages, aux repas et aux montagnes de vaisselle à laver durant les battages.

Plus tard, les garçons sont allés au Collège à Falher, et les filles au couvent à McLennan et à Falher. Grâce à la belle couture de notre mère, nous étions toujours convenablement habillés. La maison était toujours en activité. Le dimanche, nous, les enfants amenions souvent de la visite dîner après la messe. D'autre fois encore, on s'attardait à jaser chez les Grand-parents Lafleur qui demeuraient près de l'Eglise.

En 1956, nous avons eu la chance de retourner dans l'est pour deux mois. Nous avons bien aimé notre voyage, mais nous étions tous contents de revenir chez nous.

Ernest (SD191794 Army) et Normand (137241 JF Air Force) ont fait du service militaire pendant trois ans chacun à la sortie de l'école. On

remarque que trois des filles s'occupent encore au métier de fermier avec leur familles et demeurent près de Guy. Bibiane et ses trois frères demeurent tous en Colombie Britannique.

Après avoir pris sa retraite à Coquitlam, C.B. papa est décédé le 10 novembre, 1972. Il est inhumé à Burquitlam Cemetery. Maman a marié en secondes noces M. Donat Cloutier le 7 juillet, 1977. M. Cloutier est décédé le 26 mai, 1982, et est inhumé à Donnelly.

Maman demeure à Falher depuis ce temps. Ayant une bonne santé, elle a pu profiter de quelques beaux voyages et nous lui en soubaitions beaucoup d'autres.

Les enfants de la famille Armand et Aurore Gagné sont:

1. Ernest: n. 30-06-1936
m. 08-07-1971
Marcella Wunderlick
2. Normand: n. 28-08-1937
m. 23-12-1967
Bridget Wunderlick
 - a) Allan: n. 27-09-1968
 - b) Carol: n. 27-09-1968
3. Roseline: n. 06-10-1938 m. 15-04-1958
George Horvath
 - a) David: 05-10-1958
 - b) Mark: 09-11-1959
 - c) Katherine: n. 15-12-1960
m. 22-07-1978
Yves Mercier
 - i) Shelley: n. 09-04-1977
 - d) Anthony: 15-04-1962
4. Maurice: n. 14-02-1940
1m. 17-09-1962
2m. 14-02-1978
Liliane Tremblay
 - a) Céline: n. 11-07-1963
d. 22-07-1967
 - b) Dale: n. 08-08-1964
 - c) Michele: n. 22-09-1965
 - d) Sandra: n. 27-06-1969
2m. Margot Heigh
5. Lorraine: n. 19-04-1941
m. 22-11-1960
André Gagnon:
 - a) Noëlla: n. 09-05-1964
m. 13-12-1980
Paul Fortier:
 - i) Shane: n. 21-04-1981
 - ii) Randy: n. 28-09-1982
 - b) Yvonne: n. 25-02-1967
6. Bibiane: n. 16-05-1945
m. 03-12-1970
Anker Gron:
 - a) Michael: n. 11-07-1973
 - b) Lisa: n. 05-08-1975

7. Françoise: n. 09-04-1947 m. 25-10-1968
Rene Dechief:
 - a) Derrick: n. 31-07-1969
 - b) Joanne: n. 25-04-1972
 - c) Ryan: n. 14-04-1977

* * *

When still young, my father travelled from Newfoundland to Vancouver and spent one year in Saskatchewan to harvest and to learn English.

My mother, as a young girl, worked in the woolen and rubber industries. Later she was a seamstress for ladies in Amos.

They got married in Opasatika where timber was the principal industry. They organized a group of settlers and arrived in Guy in the autumn of 1943. Mother and the five children spent the winter in Mr. Ernest Gosselin's yard and father in a lumber camp.

Once a shack was built, mother made a garden and father broke land. A forest fire nearly swept everything. Fortunately, the neighbors came to the rescue. After five years a new house was built and the shack was converted into a store but not for long.

Dad got involved in school affairs and spent some time organizing a local school, trustees, hiring teachers and asking the Sisters of Holy Cross to come as teachers. Father Lechasseur helped out and later on trustees decided to join H.P.S.D. while seeing that French and religion would still be taught. Meanwhile land was being broken and improvements made.

Dad retired in Coquitlam, B.C. After his death mother remarried Mr. Donat Cloutier. When he died she continued to live in Falher where she is still residing.

GAGNE, DENIS & BLAIS, CHANTAL

by Avis Gagné

I'm the eldest child of Eddy and Marie Gagne who are long-time residents of the Guy area. Considering that there are now over 30 of us in the family, I guess I started quite a run of Gagne's.

I spent my first 2 years of school at Benoit School which was about a mile from where we lived. Then in grade 3 I had to stay at the convent in Guy during the week in order to attend school. I was sure happy when there were school buses the next year. Boarding at the convent was a pretty lonely experience for us little ones.

I completed my grade 8 at Langlois and decided I'd had enough of school learning. The next winter I went to work for Buchanan in the lumber camp and after that for a couple of winters I worked on seismic crews in the North West



Denis Gagne at work.

Territories. I decided freezing in the North wasn't for me so I packed that in.

I was working for the government on a bridge crew when I met Chantal Blais. One thing lead to another and on April 15, 1968 the bells of the Guy Church rang to announce our wedding. Chantal was originally from Donnelly where her parents, Marie-Anne and Rosario Blais had farmed for a number of years. She spent her early school years in Donnelly and McLennan and her later ones in High Prairie after her family moved there.

After we were married we lived for a while in Guy and then moved to Enilda, as I was working for Bissels at the time. Then we moved to Valleyview where I worked for Northwood contracting as an equipment operator and ranch hand. In 1975 we moved back to Guy and shortly after that I started my present job as grader operator for the M.D. No 130. Chantal is also employed right here in the community at Gerry's Apiaries where she has worked for the past 8 years.

Our two youngest children, Jason and Brenda are attending school in Donnelly. Marie-Anne graduates this year and is anxious to be on her own. Daniel, our oldest, is now in attendance at Red Deer College where he is studying toward a

Music Certificate, specializing in percussion. He has shown a remarkable interest and ability in music all his life and we were very pleased when he chose to pursue this area of study. The whole family was very proud of him this past fall when he performed with the Red Deer College Wind Ensemble at the Expo '86 World Fair.

I've enjoyed the outdoors all my life; hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and trike riding are favorite pastimes for the whole family. The bush in this area has provided us with many juicy moose steaks and the frying pan often sizzles with locally caught fish. I hope that our future descendants will find very little changes in this area so that they too may enjoy the outdoors as we have.

Denis Gagne; n.25-11-1947 m.15-04-1968

Chantal Blais; n.27-09-1952

CHILDREN:

1. Daniel; n.04-09-1968
2. Marie-Anne; n.19-01-1970
3. Jason; n.23-01-1974
4. Brenda; n.02-09-1975

* * *

Je suis l'aîné d'Eddy et Marie Gagné. Si on considère que nous sommes maintenant trente dans la famille, j'ai dû commencé une descendance de Gagné.

J'ai fréquenté les écoles Benoit et Langlois. Après avoir complété ma huitième année, j'allai travailler pour Buchanan l'hiver suivant dans le chantier et les hivers subséquents sur les équipes sismiques dans les Territoires du Nord Ouest. Comme je n'aimais pas geler au Nord, j'ai mis fin à tout cela.

Je travaillais pour le gouvernement avec une équipe travaillant sur des ponts quand je fis la connaissance de Chantal Blais. Nous nous sommes mariés le 15 avril 1968. Chantal était native de Donnelly où ses parents cultivaient pour un temps. Elle fréquenta les écoles de Donnelly, McLennan et High Prairie.

Après notre mariage nous vécumes à Guy et ensuite à Enilda alors que je travaillais pour Bissels. Nous déménagions à Valleyview pour mon travail à Northwood contracting. En 1975 nous revenions à Guy et je commençai à conduire une niveleuse pour la Municipalité. Chantal travaille ici depuis huit ans pour Gerry's Apiaries.

Nos deux plus jeunes fréquentent l'école de Donnelly. Marie-Anne terminera ces études cette année. Daniel est au Collège de Red Deer où il étudie la musique de percussion.

Pour ma part j'ai joui de la nature durant

toute ma vie; la chasse, la pêche, la moto-neige, le tricycle motorisé sont les loisirs préférés de toute la famille. La forêt ici nous fournit du "steak" d'original et nous avons aussi du poisson des lacs environants.

J'espère que nos descendants verront peu de changements dans cette région et qu'eux comme nous pourront jouir de la grande nature.

GAGNE, EDDY & LEMAY, MARIE

by Marie

On July 20, 1926, Eddy was born at St. Camille, Quebec. He was the first child of Lydia Chabot and Archelas Gagné. This eager baby presented himself two months before he was due. We of this era are truly amazed at the devotion of his parents who nurtured this three-pound mite to grow healthy and strong. In those days there were no incubators so they kept him warm in front of the wood stove. Archelas was a widower with two sons; Real and Ronald and a daughter Jacqueline from his previous marriage. Eddy never knew his dad as he was only three months old when his dad passed away. Archelas, Eddy's younger brother, was born on May 29, 1927.

Eddy arrived in Guy on the 24th day of May, 1941, after travelling from Quebec for ten days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Gosselin. (Lydia had remarried in 1933.)

After making camp a quarter mile from the church, they were very surprised when they got up in the morning and started to go look for the

church. It was right there and they hadn't seen it due to the density of the big strong trees. It sure wasn't what they had expected: they thought it was going to be a paradise of farmland; so they had been told.

One morning Eddy and Archie figured they were going to do like at home in Quebec and get some trout for supper. What a surprise when the store owner told them there wasn't any fish for miles around, another disappointment in this paradise they had come to.

In March 1944, Eddy who was seventeen years old, enlisted in Calgary as many other young fellows did. He was at a great disadvantage as he couldn't speak a word of English. From there he went to a training camp in Wetaskiwin. He had to do lots of kitchen duty due to his poor understanding of the English language. Then he was sent to Val Cartier, Quebec, which thankfully was French. By the time he was ready for overseas duty, the war was over so he came back home. He then leased a quarter of land two and a half miles from Guy and farmed in the summer and worked in a lumber camp in winter.

As was common in those days few families could boast of motorized transportation; neighbors often shared trips to town and social events. As it happened, Mr. Gosselin had traded his truck for Mr. Aurele Benoit's land which was five miles from Guy. So on Sunday instead of each family going to church with their own team, Mr. Gosselin would pick up people along the road; the Lemay family included. One of the Lemay girls seemed to be special in Eddy's eyes. Very soon Marie was accompanying Eddy to gatherings and dances. Wedding bells must have rung in Eddy's mind, for on November 26, 1946, Eddy married Marie Lemay. Obviously there must have been more to the conversations of Marie and Eddy than the Sunday sermon on those rides home from church.

They made their first home on Eddy's lease east of Guy, SE 7-76-20-W5. The road was just a trail. After an incident when they were dumped off their springboard into water (due to a two foot deep cut in the road caused by spring runoff), they decided to buy land four miles from Guy on a better road. They lived in a two storey house, 18' by 24', where they were happy.

In 1964 the whole family was very happy when Eddy's mother moved in with them. Lydia had been living with her daughter Helene in Donnelly, but as Helene's house was really small and she was expecting a baby, Mrs. Gosselin moved to Eddy and Marie's place. Although it was a little more work they didn't mind. She was a real good person with the kids and played cards



R.1 Louis. R.2 Lucien, René. R.3 Eddy, Marie. R.4 Joseph, Hélène, Raymond, Denis, Cécile, Rollande.

with them by the hour. She showed Rene how to count and read at four years old. The kids all loved her so much that they were happy to do anything for her. She was always ready to listen to their problems. Although she was bedridden she managed to keep everybody's moral up by always making us realize that there's always someone worse off than us. What a saint of a woman! She left our home in August 1968 to live in the nursing home in McLennan. We all found an empty spot in our lives. By that time she had been operated on for cancer which was found to be generalized. She died in July 1969.

In 1967, the family decided to move into the hamlet of Guy so that Eddy could be closer to his work. He was, and still is, employed as a bee-keeper by Gerry Paradis. After forty years of marriage Eddy and Marie's house in Guy has remained the focal point for family gatherings. With nine children and twenty-two grandchildren, the house fairly bursts at the seams when the family gets together.



Denis Gagné, Mémère Gosselin, bébé Dany et Eddy Gagné.
4 générations.

The eager young man transplanted from his native Quebec and his locally born bride have over the forty years of their marriage developed a deep and strong bond with the people of Guy. Through their involvement with the church, community and school Marie, Eddy and family have many precious memories of gatherings and celebrations shared with neighbors and friends. No matter where their descendants make their homes, in their hearts, they will carry with them a little of the spirit of Guy.

Eddy Gagne: n.20-07-1926

m.26-11-1946

Marie Lemay: n.20-05-1929

CHILDREN:

1. Denis: n.25-11-1947 m.
Chantal Blais: n.27-09-1952
(see Gagné, Denis)
2. Helen: n.15-01-1949 m.
Dick Grammer: n.23-01-1936
a) Lyanne: n.01-11-1969
b) Duane: n.25-09-1972
c) Deanne: n.12-03-1975
They live in McLennan, AB.
3. Rollande: n.30-01-1950 m.
Frank Smith: n.27-09-1943
a) Dale: n.21-07-1972
b) Shannon: n.15-06-1975
They live in McLennan.
4. Cecile: n.17-11-1952 m.
Ken Arnott: n.16-06-1946
a) Dawn: n.24-12-1972
b) Douglas: n.18-07-1976
They live in Fort Nelson.
5. Raymond: n.17-12-1953 m.
d.15-05-1980
Phyllis Cyre: n.24-06-1957
a) Cindy: n.11-01-1976
b) Shawn: n.05-07-1978
c) Susan: n.23-09-1980
6. Joseph: n.19-03-1955 m.
m.
Claudette Marcoux: n.17-11-1961
a) Joanne: n.31-08-1980
b) Raymond: n.07-03-1984
They live in Guy.
7. Louis: n.17-03-1957 m.
Avis Konshak n.01-11-1959
(see GAGNE, Louis).

* * *

Eddy arriva à Guy le 24 mai 1941 après un trajet de dix jours avec ses parents, M. et Mme Ernest Gosselin (Lydia Gagné s'est remariée en 1933).

En mars 1944 Eddy qui avait dix-sept ans s'enrôla à Calgary comme bien d'autres. Ne connaissant pas l'anglais il fut désavantagé. De là il alla à un camp d'entraînement à Wetaskiwin. Il dut faire plus que sa part de corvées de cuisine à cause de son peu de compréhension de l'anglais. Il fut envoyé à Val Cartier, Québec, où tout était en français. Par le temps qu'il fut prêt pour le service outre-mer, la guerre était finie.

Il prit donc une bail sur un quart de terre à deux milles et demi de Guy et cultiva l'été et travailla au chantier en hiver.

C'était la coutume de ce temps là de voyager plusieurs ensemble pour se rendre au village ou aux événements sociaux. M. Gosselin avait échangé son camion pour le terrain de M. Aurèle Benoit qui se trouvait à cinq milles de Guy. Alors le dimanche plutôt que chacun aille à l'église avec ses chevaux, M. Gosselin faisait monter les gens le long de la route, la famille Lemay incluse. Une des filles Lemay attira le regard d'Eddy. Bientôt Marie accompagna Eddy aux réunions et aux danses. Ils s'épousèrent.

Ils s'installèrent sur le terrain d'Eddy. Le chemin n'était qu'un sentier. Un peu plus tard, ils décidèrent d'acheter un terrain à quatre milles de Guy sur un meilleur chemin. Ils vivaient dans une maison de deux étages de 18 x 24 pieds.

En 1964, toute la famille se réjouit à l'arrivée de la mère d'Eddy. Même si c'était un peu plus de travail personne de s'en préoccupait. Elle était très bonne pour les enfants et jouait avec eux. Elle était toujours prête à écouter leurs problèmes. Bien qu'ailtée elle savait remonter le moral de tous, nous faisant réaliser qu'il y en a toujours de pire que nous. Elle laissa notre foyer en août 1968 pour demeurer au foyer de McLennan. Elle a laissé un vide dans chacune de nos vies. Elle mourut du cancer en juillet 1969.

En 1967, la famille décida de déménager à Guy pour qu'Eddy soit plus près de son travail. Il était et est encore employé comme apiculteur par Gérard Paradis.

Après quarante ans de mariage la maison d'Eddy et Marie est encore le point de rencontres familiales. Avec neufs enfants et vingt-deux petits-enfants il y a de quoi la remplir.

Avec les années, ce couple a tissé des liens forts et profonds avec les gens de Guy. Avec leur implication dans l'église, la communauté et l'école, Marie et Eddy ont de bien précieux souvenirs de rencontres et festivités partagées avec voisins et amis. Peu importe où iront leurs descendants, ils emporteront avec eux un peu de l'esprit de Guy.

GAGNE, LOUIS, & KONSHAK, AVIS

by Avis Gagné

Louis, born March 17, 1957, is the 7th of nine children in the family of Eddy and Marie Gagné. He attended Langlois School in Guy for his first nine years of school and completed his grade 12

at G.P. Vanier in Donnelly. Shortly after he left to work at Proctor and Gamble in Grande Prairie.

While he worked there he met Avis, daughter of Lake Saskatoon area farmers, Marvin and Norma Konshak. Francophone and Anglophone mixed very well; we were married in July of 1977 in Grande Prairie. In August of 1980 we moved to the Guy area with our two sons. We purchased the acreage where Joe Morin had once operated his store and post office. Our dreams of owning a little piece of Canada had finally come true and we were full of plans for a yard teeming with flower beds and rows of vegetables. Our thoughts of long juicy carrots and fat succulent turnips soon met with the reality of cement-like soil and a very healthy population of fat juicy cutworms. Ever the optimists we have added loads of manure, peatmoss, leaves and wood ashes to our little Eden, and each year the carrots get longer and the cutworms get shorter.

Louis has been employed with the High Level branch of Alberta Transportation since April 1982. In the fall of 1983 we moved to High Level but returned here in 1985.

Louis and I have both served on the executive of the Guy Sports Committee, he as president and I as secretary—treasurer.

Another activity which we both thoroughly enjoy, along with many others, is "coffee time" at the Guy General Store. A multitude of regional, national and international problems and crises have been hashed over and resolved by members of the coffee club. With a minimum of profanity and a maximum of laughter these discussions have been known to prolong "coffee time" to an all day event. This wonderful tradition is one we hope never dies as it is surely an indication of a warm, friendly and closely knit community.

Louis Gagné; n.17-03-1957 m.23-07-1977

Avis Konshak; n.01-11-1959

CHILDREN:

1. Dallas; n.27-10-1977

2. Allan; n.24-03-1980

3. Krystina; n.02-12-1984

* * *

Louis fréquenta l'école Langlois à Guy pour ses neuf premières années scolaire et compléta sa douzième à G.P. Vanier à Donnelly. Après ses études, il alla travailler pour Proctor et Gamble à Grande Prairie. C'est là qu'il rencontra Avis qu'il épousa en juillet 1977.

En août 1980, nous déménagions à Guy avec nos deux fils. Nous avons acheté le terrain où Joe Morin avait eu son magasin et le bureau de poste et avons commencé à rêver d'une cour

remplie de fleurs et d'un jardin de légumes délicieux. Nous avons rencontré la réalité d'une terre de ciment et toute une population de vers rongeurs. Nous veillions sur notre petit Eden avec fumier, mousse, feuilles et cendre et chaque année les carottes étaient plus longues et les vers moins nombreux.

Louis a été employé par Transport Alberta depuis avril 1982. A l'automne de 1983 nous avons déménagé à High Level pour son travail mais revinrent ici en 1985.

Louis et moi, avons tous deux servi sur l'exécutif du comité de sports de Guy, lui comme président et moi comme secrétaire-trésorière. Bien que nous ne faisons plus partie de l'exécutif nous jouissons des activités variées mises sur pied par le comité.

Nous jouissons aussi de la période de café au magasin de Guy où les problèmes régionaux, nationaux et internationaux sont remâchés et résolus par les membres du club. Cette merveilleuse tradition, nous l'espérons, continuera puisqu'elle est un signe d'une communauté amicale et très proche.

GAGNE, MAURICE & TREMBLAY, LILIANE

by Liliane Lefebvre

Maurice, son of Armand Gagné and Aurore Lafleur, was born in Opasatika, Ontario. He was 3 years old when he came to Guy with his family. M. L'Abbé Claude deChamplain was his first teacher.

We were married on September 17, 1962. I am from Jean Côté and my parents are Raoul Tremblay and Noëlla Fortin. We farmed for a few years having taken homestead on SW 10-76-20-W5. In the summertime, we lived in a small house we had built ourselves but which we never finished. Maurice worked out in the winter time so we moved often. Our three oldest children were born during these years.

The saddest day of our lives was when we lost our eldest daughter, Céline, in a car accident. She had just turned four years old. Thank God, we still had two more children with us.

We then moved to Fort St-James, B.C., where Maurice worked as cat operator on road construction for many years. Our youngest daughter, Sandra, was born shortly after we moved there. Finally, we gave up farming altogether and sold our land to Rose and George Horvath.

Maurice is now a commercial fisherman and lives in Port Alberni, B.C.

I live in Eaglesham and am re-married to Robert Lefebvre, February 05, 1981.

Maurice Gagné: n. 14-02-1940



Sandra, Dale, Michelle Gagné

m. 17-09-1962

Liliane Tremblay: n. 01-02-1941

CHILDREN:

1- Céline: n. 11-07-1963

d. 22-07-1967

2- Dale: n. 08-08-1964

3- Michele: n. 22-09-1965

4- Sandra: n. 27-06-1969

* * *

Fils d' Armand Gagné et Aurore Lafleur, Maurice naquit à Opasatika en Ontario. Il arriva à Guy avec sa famille alors qu'il avait 3 ans. M. l'Abbé de Champlain fut son premier professeur.

Notre mariage eut lieu le 17 septembre 1962. Originaire de Jean Côté, mes parents sont Raoul Tremblay et Noëlla Fortin.

Nous avions un "homestead" et cultivions la terre pendant quelques années. A l'été, nous vivions dans une petite maison qui n'a jamais été achevée. Vu que Maurice travaillait au loin, en hiver, nous nous déplaçons souvent. Nos trois enfants aînés sont nés ces années là.

Nous eûmes la tristesse de perdre notre fille aînée, Céline, dans un accident de voiture. Elle avait à peine quatre ans. Grâce à Dieu nous avions encore deux autres enfants.

Plus tard, nous déménagions à Fort St-James en C.B. où Maurice conduisait un tracteur chenille sur la construction des routes pour un bon nombre d'années. Notre dernier enfant, Sandra naquit peu après notre arrivée là.

A la fin, nous abandonnâmes la culture tout à fait, et vendîmes notre terre à Rose et George Horvath.

Maurice demeure présentement à Port Alberni en C.B. Il fait de la pêche commerciale.

Je me suis remariée à Robert Lefebvre le 5 février 1981 et je demeure à Eaglesham.

GAGNON, ANDRE & GAGNE, LORRAINE

by Lorraine

André, son of Joseph Charles (Willie) Gagnon and Marie Alice Savard was born in Jouvassard, December 15, 1937. At the age of ten his family moved on a farm in the Driftpile River Valley, where his brother, Raymond, still lives. André went to school at the St. Augustin Mission in Peace River.

I was born in Opasatika, Ontario, April 19, 1941, to Armand Xavier Gagné and Aurore Blanche Lafleur. My family moved to Guy when I was two years old.



The Gagnon Family. R.1 Lorraine, Randy, Shane. R.2 Noëlla, Andre, Yvonne.

In 1946 my dad was very involved in organizing a school for the Hamlet of Guy. In order for Guy to have enough children to qualify for a teacher, he enrolled me, even though I was too young. Later in the year when the inspector came, he looked at the register, realized my age,

and sent me home. However the school was already open, the teacher hired, and the families involved were ecstatic! You can imagine the joy. This was quite an improvement. I remember the neighbor's boy, Léo Snizek, and my brothers harnessing their dog to a toboggan to travel to Whiteland School three and a half miles away.

In 1956 Langlois School still didn't have a High School, so I went to Falher for grades 10-11. For my grade 12 I went to McLennan.

November 22, 1960, André and I were married. In 1961 we rented the farm of Mr. Léonard Paquette in Donnelly. In 1963 we took our first homestead, NW 22-73-21-W5 east on the Alder Ridge Road, in the New Fish Creek area.

Our oldest daughter, Noëlla, was born May 9, 1964. July 27, 1968 we got our adopted daughter, Yvonne, who was born February 25, 1967. Both girls attended Langlois School until its closure. They then went to school in Valleyview. In 1980, Yvonne went to G.P. Vanier in Donnelly.

Throughout the years, during the winter months, André worked at varied logging operations in Jouvassard, Faust, Manning even as far as Meander River. From 1968-74 we specialized in raising hogs, finishing approximately five hundred hogs a year. Another sideline to the farm, from 1968-78, was driving a school bus to Valleyview.

Everything considered it has been a challenging life, having homesteaded, and patented six quarter sections. It has also been very rewarding and full of unexpected adventure.

André Gagnon: n.15-12-1937

m.22-11-1960

Lorraine Gagné: n.19-04-1941

CHILDREN:

1. Noëlla: n.09-05-1964

m.13-12-1980

Paul Fortier

a) Shane Dawn: n.21-04-1981

b) Randy Lee: n.25-09-1982

2. Yvonne: n.25-02-1967

* * *

A l'âge de dix ans, André et sa famille déménagèrent de Jouvassard sur une ferme dans la vallée de la rivière Driftpile où son frère Raymond demeure encore. Il a fait ses études à la Mission St-Augustin à Peace River.

A l'automne de 1943 ma famille déménagea d'Opasatika, Ontario à Guy.

En 1946 papa aidait à organiser une école pour le village de Guy. Puisqu'il manquait d'élèves pour que l'école se qualifie pour avoir une institutrice, papa m'inscrivit même si j'étais

trop jeune. Au courant de l'année l'inspecteur est venu; il lut le registre, réalisa mon jeune âge et me renvoya. Mais, à la joie de tous, l'école était ouverte et le professeur engagé. L'école était une grosse amélioration, car je me rappelle mes frères et le voisin, Léo Sniezek attelant leur chien sur un toboggan pour se rendre à l'école Whiteland à trois milles et demi au sud.

J'allai au couvent de Falher pour ma dixième et ma onzième année et au couvent de McLennan pour ma douzième année.

Après notre mariage nous avons loué la ferme de M. Léonard Paquette à Donnelly. En 1963 nous avons pris notre "homestead" dans New Fish Creek, à l'est sur le chemin de Alder Ridge.

Nos deux filles fréquentèrent l'école Langlois jusqu'à sa fermeture. De là elles allèrent à Valleyview. En 1980 Yvonne choisit d'aller à l'école G.P. Vanier de Donnelly.

Durant les hivers André travaillait à divers chantiers dans les environs de Jossard, Faust, Manning et même aussi loin que Meander River. Durant les années 1968-1974 on se spécialisa dans l'élevage du porc. Aussi de 1968-1978 on conduisait un autobus scolaire pour Valleyview.

A tout considérer notre vie fut très intéressante, marquée de beaucoup de travail mais autant d'aventure et de bonheur.

GAGNON, CHARLES & JASMIN, MARIE

par eux-mêmes

Charles-Auguste Gagnon est né à St-Moise, Québec, le 16 juillet 1926. Ses parents étaient Pierre Gagnon et Céline Thibault.

Après avoir passé 23 ans au Québec, essayant diverses entreprises, Charles conclut qu'il serait mieux pour lui de quitter sa province natale et d'aller à la recherche d'un avenir plus assuré dans l'ouest. Il arriva donc à Falher, Alberta, le 14 avril 1950 en compagnie de bien d'autres jeunes gens du Québec, cherchant eux aussi de plus verts pâturages.

Comme c'était le printemps, bien des fermiers recherchaient de l'aide pour les semences. C'est ainsi que Charles trouva son premier emploi en Alberta, chez M. Jos Labrecque de Spirit River.

Les semences terminées, il revint à Falher pour y travailler à la construction du Collège Notre Dame de Falher. Il passa l'été à cette construction.

L'automne arrivé, Charles décida de se rendre en Colombie pour travailler dans les chantiers. Les mois suivants furent pour lui très pénibles ne pouvant pas communiquer en



Charles et Marie Gagnon.

anglais. Mais il était déterminé à surmonter ce handicap et lorsqu'il revint à Falher au printemps, 1951 il pouvait se débrouiller assez bien dans la langue anglaise.

En 1951 Charles s'en vint à Guy travailler à la ferme de Paul Gagnon. C'est à Guy que Charles fondera un foyer et deviendra cultivateur.

Le 7 juillet, 1952 Charles unissait sa destinée à Marie Jasmin, institutrice à l'école de Guy. Ils établirent leur foyer dans le village. Mais comme c'était leur désir, il prirent un "homestead" W¹/₂-35-75-20 situé à 4 milles à l'est de Guy. De leur union naîtront trois enfants, Denis, Thérèse et Muriel.

Défricher le "homestead" devint pour Charles un projet de plusieurs années. Comme il n'y avait pas de chemins pour se rendre à l'est de



Charles Gagnon au chantier en 1950.

Guy, le seul mode de transport était soit les chevaux ou le tracteur. Il fallait faire de la résidence comme l'exigeait les lois de "homestead". La famille passait les mois d'été sur la terre. On abattait les arbres, cassait du terrain, ramassait les roches et les racines. Une "grainerie" servait d'habitation. Les chaleurs d'été et les maringouins causaient de réels ennuis. Mais malgré toutes les difficultés, Charles et Marie aidés de leurs enfants réussirent à ouvrir leur demi-section au quatre coins. Les mois d'été passés, Charles moissonnait la récolte ou encore, devenait camionneur ou bien travaillait à la construction de chemins, toujours dans le but de gagner de l'argent pour pouvoir ouvrir encore d'autre terrain. Et Marie se dévouait à l'enseignement.

En 1973, ils eurent la chance de pouvoir agrandir leur propriété en achetant d'autres terres. C'est alors qu'ils déménagèrent en campagne pour y demeurer jusqu'à leur retraite en 1980.

Maintenant Charles et Marie reviennent à Guy tous les ans pour y revoir famille et amis. Il faut dire que Guy sera toujours leur "chez-nous".

Charles Gagnon: n. 16-07-1926 m. 07-07-1952

Marie Jasmin: n. 01-05-1930

Enfants:

1) Denis: n. 09-04-1953

m. 14-07-1979

Colleen Sexsmith: n.

Demeurent à Edmonton, il est ingénieur et ils ont trois enfants.

2) Thérèse: n. 15-11-1954

Elle est infirmière et demeure à Calgary.

3) Muriel: n. 05-12-1956

m. 09-08-1975

Michel Dubrûle: n. 01-08-1955

Ils demeurent à Donnelly et ils ont deux enfants.

* * *

After spending twenty-three years in Québec, Charles decided to come out West, arriving in Falher in 1950 accompanied by other young people from Québec. His first job was helping with seeding at Mr. Jos Labrecque of Spirit River, then helping build the College in Falher.

He suffered a language barrier when he went working in lumber camps in B.C. but returned with some knowledge of the English language.

After their marriage in 1952, they took up a homestead east of Guy. To clear his land took several years and the family stayed in a granary

during the summer and moved to town during the winter.

In 1973, they bought more land and moved on their homestead to stay until their retirement in 1980.

Now they return to Guy to visit family and friends every year.

GAGNON, DANIEL & BLAIS, SIMONE

by Daniel

Daniel Arthur Gagnon, son of Paul and Alberta Desfosses was born in 1954 and raised on the farm three miles south and one mile east of Guy. After completing school, nine years in Guy then three years in Donnelly, Daniel went to Fairview College to take a two year agricultural course. Jobs were limited so he went to work bush clearing the right of way for a high power line east of Slave Lake. In the summer of 1975 he found employment with the Municipal District #130 as an Agricultural Fieldman. In the spring of 1979 he left the M.D. to work in Swan Hills Gas



R.1 Victor, Jean-Paul. R.2 Daniel et Simone Gagnon.

Plant where he apprenticed to become a Journeyman Heavy Duty Mechanic and took his required courses in Fairview College. On June 30, 1979, he married Simone Blais, daughter of Georges and Annette Simoneau and moved a house-trailer to Swan Hills while in the process of buying land owned by Charles Gagnon, one mile east of his parents' home. The purchase of the land SW 20-75-20- W5, NW 17-15-20-W5, was completed in January, 1980. He added N½ 6-75-19-W5 in 1983.

Victor, their first, was born while they lived in Swan Hills. The family then moved to their

farm, and in 1982 a second son, Jean Paul, was born. Daniel still goes out to Swan Hills to work as required.

Daniel A. Gagnon: n.31-08-1954

m.30-06-1979

Simone M. Blais: n.18-03-1959

CHILDREN:

1) Victor A.: n.18-08-1980

2) Jean Paul L.: n.14-09-1982

* * *

Daniel a été élevé sur la ferme à trois milles au sud et un mille à l'est de Guy.

Après avoir complété ses études: neuf ans à Guy et trois ans à Donnelly, Daniel alla au Collège de Fairview pour prendre un cours d'agriculture pendant deux ans. Comme les emplois étaient limités il partit défricher un chemin pour la ligne électrique à l'est de Slave Lake. A l'été de 1975 il trouva du travail avec le district municipal #130 comme "fieldman" agricole. Au printemps de 1979 il laissa la municipalité pour travailler dans le plan de gaz de Swan Hills où il fut apprenti mécanicien de machineries lourdes et prit le cours requis au collège de Fairview.

En juin 1979 il épousa Simone Blais et déménagea une maison mobile à Swan Hills tout en étant en marche d'acheter du terrain appartenant à Charles Gagnon. L'achat fut finalisé en janvier 1980.

Victor, l'aîné est né à Swan Hills. La famille déménagea sur la ferme et en 1982 un deuxième fils est né. Daniel se rend encore à Swan Hills pour y travailler tel que requis.

GAGNON, DONAT & LAUZON, MARIE-JEANNE

raconté par André Gagnon à Suzanne

Ayant appris que le commerce de Mme Desnoyers était à vendre à Falher, AB., Donat Gagnon de New Glasgow, P.Q., vient au printemps 1931 voir s'il y aurait avantage pour lui et sa famille d'émigrer dans l'ouest canadien. Ce qu'il voit lui plaît; il retourne à New Glasgow, vend son commerce d'hôtel et entreprend la grande aventure accompagné de sa femme, Marie-Jeanne et de ses enfants. Paul a sept ans, Gabrielle six ans et André cinq ans. A leur départ leurs amis leur donnent en cadeau ce qu'ils croient pouvoir les protéger des indiens pendant ce long voyage dans le nord-ouest albertain: un revolver et une petite chienne! La famille part donc en automobile et arrive saine et sauve sans avoir eu à utiliser ni le revolver ou la petite chienne. Donat a hâte de prendre pos-

session du nouveau commerce qui comprend: une écurie pour deux chevaux de louage, un poste d'essence Red Rose, deux taxis, trois camions, la vente de bois de charpente, la traite des fourrures et le contrat de charroyer la bière en baril de McLennan à Falher. Donat est donc très occupé du moment où il arrive à Falher. Il échange le poste d'essence Red Rose pour la compagnie Imperial, et emploie plusieurs hommes afin d'opérer ces commerces. Donat transporte la bière pour la somme de 1800,00 \$ par année de 1931 à 1946.



Départ de Glasgow, P.Q. pour l'ouest. R.1 Gabrielle, André R.2 Paul, Jeanne et Donat Gagnon.

En plus de toutes ces activités Donat loue du terrain de Donat Forgues et de Sylvio Villeneuve. Apprenant que M. Napoléon Loisel veut vendre une demi-section N^o 1/2-18-75-20-W5, Donat échange un camion à quatre cylindres et paie les arrérages de taxes et obtient le terrain de M. Loisel à Guy. Sur cet emplacement se trouve déjà quelques bâtisses et du bois de charpente que M. Loisel avait scié pendant son séjour sur cette propriété. Se servant donc de ce bois et de celui de son commerce de Falher Donat commence la construction d'une grande maison sur la ferme à Guy et bâtit aussi d'autres bâtisses nécessaires aux fermiers à ce temps. Il a fallu l'aide de plusieurs hommes à gage pour bâtir et défricher les terres à la bache.

En 1942 Donat avait acheté trois autres quarts de section NW-24-75-21-W5 et W¹/₂ 25-75-21-W5 de M. Jos Isidore Aubin au prix de 1800,00 \$ pour les trois quarts en plus d'une coquette petite maison en bois rond qui servit de première demeure à Henri et Gabrielle Johnson. Ces nouvelles terres sont très faciles à défricher car on emploie maintenant le "bulldozer" pour ce travail.

Durant ce temps très occupé de défrichage, les enfants fréquentent les écoles post-secondaires. Paul prend un cours d'agriculture et Gabrielle un cours d'Art Ménager tous les deux à Olds. En 1943-44 Paul prend "Tractor Mechanics" à Calgary à "Institute of Technology and Arts". Pendant ce temps il sert aussi dans la réserve de l'Armée Canadienne car c'est la deuxième guerre mondiale. Il quitte donc ses études car il doit faire le choix entre l'Armée et le retour à la ferme. C'est ce qui l'a amené cultiver à Guy. A l'automne 1944 Paul et André cultivent ensemble les terres à Guy.



Ferme de Paul Gagnon, 1944.

C'est le 17 juillet 1946 que Paul épouse Alberta Desfossés et André épouse Thérèse Maure, en noces doubles. Après le mariage André et Thérèse s'installent dans le "shack" qui est sur la propriété et Paul et Alberta s'installent dans la "camboose" tout près, en attendant que la nouvelle maison soit habitable. Le 11 novembre les deux jeunes couples peuvent enfin déménager dans la grande maison même s'il n'y a que des toiles pour couvrir l'ouverture des portes et fenêtres. On ne peut obtenir les matériaux de construction nécessaires dû à leur rareté à cause de la guerre.

Ses garçons établis, en novembre 1946, Donat vend son commerce de Falher et en enchère ses biens et retourne au Québec avec sa femme et sa fille Gabrielle. Mais en janvier 1947 ils reviennent et demeurent tous ensemble dans la grande maison inachevée. Au mois de mars Donat achète la boucherie de M. Théodore Rémillard à Girouxville et Donat, Marie-Jeanne et Gabrielle y font leur chez-eux. Peu après André et Thérèse déménagent à Girouxville aussi. Deux ans plus tard, ils bâtissent l'immeuble qui va servir de logis pour les deux familles au deuxième plancher et la boucherie au premier.

Chez les Gagnon, à la ferme, il faut améliorer son sort; il faut profiter des nouveautés sur le marché: on y installe une citerne pour l'eau, une génératrice électrique, un réfrigérateur, une chambre de bain avec eau courante. Pour la culture c'est l'achat d'un tracteur sur roues de caoutchouc, un crible avec moteur pour nettoyer le grain et l'achat d'une première moissonneuse-batteuse.

La société "Donat Gagnon et Fils" prend fin en 1963. Alors Paul continue avec ses fils la culture à Guy.

Donat Gagnon: n.11-03-1894 m.17-01-1923 d.20-06-1969

Marie-Jeanne Lauzon: n.19-08-1903 d.21-05-1973

ENFANTS:

1- Paul: n.30-09-1923 m.17-07-1946 d.23-11-1984

Alberta Desfossés (Voir Gagnon, Paul)

2- Gabrielle: n.03-04-1925 m.24-11-1948

Henri Johnson (Voir Johnson, Henri)

3- André: n.27-04-1926 m.17-07-1946

Thérèse Maure: n.21-02-1929

a) Yvan: n.10-08-1947 m.25-08-1972

Jeanne Hurtubise: n.07-04-1947

i) Lynn: n.28-12-1965

ii) Marc: n.04-11-1977

iii) Michael: n.03-04-1985

b) Louise: n.19-02-1949 m.09-06-1967

Léonard Limoges: n.13-07-1944

i) Marc: n.11-05-1968

ii) Michel: n.20-10-1969

iii) Tina: n.07-11-1971

iv) René: n.09-04-1973

c) Gisèle: n.15-10-1950 m.11-04-1969

Raymond Dallaire: n.24-05-1942

i) Richard: n.15-11-1971

ii) Rachelle: n.21-09-1973

4- Marilyne: n.29-12-1952

5- Joanne: n.12-08-1955 m.23-09-1977

Richard Duval: n.13-10-1953

a) Stéphanie: n.19-05-1985

6- Doreen: n.06-06-1958 m.01-08-1984

Wade Evans: n.17-04-1958

a) Matthieu: n.14-01-1985

b) James: n.18-08-1986

* * *

Having heard that Mrs. Desnoyers's business was for sale in Falher, AB. Donat Gagnon left New Glasgow, P.Q. to find out if a move to Alberta would be a good one. What he saw pleased him and he moved his family consisting of his wife Marie-Jeanne and his children Paul

(7yrs), Gabrielle (6yrs) and André (5yrs), in the spring 1931. He took possession of a livery barn, a gas pump, two taxis, three trucks, a lumber yard, a fur trading post and the contract to haul kegs of beer from McLennan for the Falher Hotel. He was a very busy man and therefore needed hired help. He also rented land to farm and bought Mr. Napoléon Loiselle N¹/₂-18-75-20-W5 in Guy. He later bought three quarters of land from Jos Aubin for the sum of \$1800.00. He then built a house on the Loiselle farm and cleared his land.

After Paul and André's double wedding in July 1947, he returned to Quebec for a brief time but came back to sell his business in Falher and to buy a butcher shop in Girouxville where he was active for many years.

GAGNON, DOUGLAS & MEYER, BRENDA

by Douglas Gagnon

Douglas Ernest Gagnon was born September 29, 1959, in High Prairie, Alberta, to Ernest and Céline Albinati. Douglas is the middle child with an older sister, Susan, and a younger sister, Gail. Doug grew up on his Grandfather Joseph Gagnon's farm. He started school at Langlois School in Guy in 1965. He completed the rest of his schooling at Georges P. Vanier High School in Donnelly. Doug was actively involved in school sporting events like volleyball, badminton, and some hockey. He graduated from G.P. Vanier School in 1977.



R.1 Baby Graham, Gina. R.2 Brenda, Douglas.

Upon completion of his school, Doug moved to Edmonton where he worked for the International Harvester Company for one year. While in Edmonton, Doug met Brenda Meyer, daughter of Charles and Gertie Meyer of Onoway, AB. Doug and Brenda soon discovered that they were destined to spend their lives together.

On August 26, 1978, Doug and Brenda were married in Donnelly. After their marriage Brenda worked at the Alfalfa Plant in Falher. Brenda's interests include craft work and gardening.

Doug took on various jobs: working in the construction of the Guy-Donnelly Sportex and driving a truck for the Alfalfa Plant.

The newlyweds resided in Jean Côté for approximately two years. In 1980, when Grandpa Gagnon moved to the Old Folks Home in High Prairie, Doug and Brenda returned to the farm where Doug assisted his father with the farming operations.

On May 14, 1981, they were blessed with their first baby, Gina Caroline. Gina was involved in all the hobbies of the family. Doug would go golfing whenever possible and Gina would ride on the golf cart. Doug and Brenda both enjoy fishing and camping, and Gina is right in there having fun too.



Douglas, Jos holding baby Graham, Ernest (Fee) Gagnon.

On October 27, 1984, they were blessed with a bouncing baby boy. They named their son Graham Douglas Ernest Joseph; after his father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Graham enjoys playing in the shop where he practices packing tools all over the yard: a tradition in the Gagnon's.

Doug and Brenda have high hopes that one day Graham will be running the farm, starting the fourth generation of farming for the Gagnon's.

Douglas Gagnon: n. 29-09-1959

m. 26-08-1978

Brenda Meyer: n. 18-02-1958

CHILDREN:

- 1- Gina: n. 14-05-1981
- 2- Graham: n. 27-10-1984

* * *

Fils d'Ernest et Céline Gagnon, Douglas naquit à High Prairie le 29 septembre 1959. Douglas a deux soeurs. Il grandit sur la ferme de son grand-père Joseph Gagnon. Ayant commencé ses études à l'école Langlois de Guy, il les poursuivit à l'école G.P. Vanier de Donnelly. Un averse sportif, il prit part au ballon-volant, au badminton et au hockey. Il fut diplômé en 1977.

Dès lors, il partit pour Edmonton où il travailla pendant un an pour la compagnie International Harvester. C'est à Edmonton qu'il rencontra Brenda Meyer, fille de Charles et Gertie Meyer d'Onoway. Ils découvrirent qu'ils étaient destinés l'un pour l'autre. Leur mariage eut lieu à Donnelly, le 26 août 1978. Par la suite, Brenda travailla au plan de Luzerne à Falher. Elle se plaît au jardinage et à l'artisanat.

Doug trouva du travail ici et là y compris à la construction du Guy-Donnelly Sportex, et à la conduite d'un camion pour l'industrie de Luzerne de Falher.

Au début de leur mariage, ils vécurent à Jean Côté pendant près de deux ans. En 1980, alors que grand-papa Gagnon prit sa retraite au foyer à High Prairie, Doug et Brenda retournèrent vivre sur la terre aidant papa Gagnon aux travaux.

Le 14 mai 1981, voyait naître leur premier-né, Gina Caroline. Gina prit part à toutes les activités récréatives de la famille. Quand son père allait jouer au golf, elle se promenait sur la charrette. Toute la famille se plaît à faire la pêche et du camping.

Le 27 octobre 1984, un fils, Graham, naquit. Graham s'amuse dans la boutique et n'hésite pas à répandre les outils à travers la cours; une tradition dans la famille Gagnon.

Les parents ont bon espoir que Graham prenne la relève et continue la culture de la ferme. Ce serait la quatrième génération de Gagnon.

GAGNON, ERNEST & ALBINATI, CELINE

by Ernest "Fee" Gagnon

Ernest Floyd "Fee" Gagnon was born on January 5, 1935. He is the third child and second son of Joseph and Ida Gagnon. He was born in McLennan and has spent his entire life in the Guy area.

He attended the Edgehill School (about three and a half miles south west of Guy) until the eighth grade when he transferred to Grimshaw school since the higher grades were not offered at the Edgehill School.



Ernest, Celine Gagnon's wedding, 1954.

As a young man he did various jobs in the off-season such as logging, power-line construction and truck driving. For the remainder of the year he worked on the farm assisting his father. This he did for a great many years. Their work included raising livestock such as cattle and hogs.

In 1954, he married Céline Albinati of Falher. Céline is the sixth daughter of François and Georgianna Albinati. They lived on the home quarter for the first years and then moved to the old Brennan place where Fee built the family home.

Céline is noted in the community for being an excellent baker. Her homemade bread and cinnamon buns have been shared with the neighbors and thoroughly enjoyed. Céline is also an excellent seamstress and taught sewing classes. She enjoys travelling and spoiling her grandchildren.

They had three children, two girls and a boy. Susan, the eldest was born on May 16, 1955. She completed her Bachelor of Education degree at the University of Alberta and taught for eight years before resigning to raise her two children. She presently resides in Athabasca with her husband, Larry and their children.

The second child, a boy, was born on September 29, 1959. Doug graduated from Donnelly

High School in 1977. He presently resides with his wife, Brenda, and their two children in Guy. Doug presently farms with his father.

In 1965 a third child, Gail, was born. Gail is presently studying to be a Computer Accountant in Edmonton.



R.1 Celine, Gail, Ernest (Fee), Gina. R.2 Naveen, Susan, Larry, Doug, Brenda, Baby Graham.

Fee eventually phased out livestock raising to concentrate on grain farming.

As time went by, he began to devote increasing attention to seed growing beginning as a Pedigreed Seed Grower and graduating to Elite Seed Grower.

Fee is now a 20 year member of the Elite Growers' Association of Canada. He is still farming in Guy. He enjoys travelling, reading and has a keen interest in world affairs.

Ernest Gagnon: n.05-01-1935 m.15-11-1954

Celine Albinati: n.11-09-1937

CHILDREN:

1. Susan: n.16-05-1955
Larry Naidoo. They have two children.
2. Doug: n.29-09-1959 m.26-08-1978
Brenda Meyer: n.18-02-1958
They have two children.
3. Gail: n.01-07-1965

* * *

Ernest fréquenta l'école de Edgehill. En huitième année il transféra à l'école de Grimsbaw puisque le secondaire n'était pas enseigné à Edgehill.

Comme jeune homme il prit différents emplois tel que l'abattage des arbres, la construction d'une ligne électrique et le camionnage. Pour le reste de l'année, il aidait son père dans les travaux de la ferme: l'élevage des vaches et des porcs.

En 1954, il épousa Céline Albinati de Falber. Ils demeurèrent sur le quart de la maison pour les premières années et déménagèrent à l'emplacement de Brennan où Fee avait bâti une nouvelle maison.

Céline est connue dans la communauté comme étant excellente boulangère. Son pain et ses rouleaux à la cannelle ont été savourés par les voisins. Elle est aussi excellente couturière et a enseigné la couture. Elle aime voyager et gâter ses petits-enfants.

Ils ont eu trois enfants: deux filles et un garçon. Susan, l'aînée a fréquenté l'Université de l'Alberta où elle obtint un bachelier en éducation et enseigna huit ans avant de démissionner pour élever ses deux enfants. Elle demeure présentement à Athabasca avec son mari, Larry.

Le deuxième, un garçon, Doug gradua de l'école Georges P. Vanier à Donnelly en 1977. Il demeure présentement à Guy avec sa femme Brenda et leurs deux enfants. Il travaille à la culture avec son père.

En 1965, un troisième enfant, Gail est née. Elle étudie présentement à Edmonton pour être comptable d'ordinateur.

Fee a graduellement quitté l'élevage d'animaux pour s'adonner à la culture du grain, se spécialisant dans la culture du grain "Pedigreed" et devenant un cultivateur de grain "Elite".

Fee est membre de l'Elite Seed Growers' Association depuis 20 ans. Il cultive toujours à Guy. Il aime voyager, lire et s'intéresse aux affaires mondiales.

GAGNON, FERNAND & PERRY, HENRIETTE

by Fernand Gagnon

I am the fourth child of a family of fourteen, born 21-07-1922 at Bic Co. Rimouski, Quebec. My parents are Jules Gagnon and Marie Louise Belzile.

I was a soldier in the Second World War for four years. I served in the twenty-second Regiment. During those years I saw a lot of country, even went overseas.

I returned to Bic after the war ended hoping to work on my parents' farm for a few years. But having a large family they didn't need all of us. Jobs in Quebec after the war were almost nil, so



The wedding of Fernand and Henriette Gagnon.

once again I left my birth place in search of work. I ended up in Ontario working in logging camps for a few years.

In the winter of 1950, I heard about a Rev. Father Gagnon, Principal of the School of Agriculture in Rimouski, who knew something about the western provinces. I always dreamt that some day I'd go visit the west. So I went to see him. He said there was a good future for young soldiers in the Peace River District of Alberta, that I could get farm land through the V.L.A. Also there was a number of men getting ready to head west. That is when I decided to join the rest and see what was there for me. We left Bic, April 6, 1950, a Holy Thursday, on the C.N.R. Before leaving I was told where my destination was and for whom I was going to be working.

I arrived in Donnelly on the morning of April 15. I enjoyed the journey; seeing flat land really impressed me. But when I got off the train it was a different story. I was wearing low rubbers over dress shoes; my rubbers stuck in that sticky goeey mud they call "Gumbo". I had never seen mud so sticky. I felt like going right back East. A lot of men did go back on the same train. I thought I'd stay for a while, make a few bucks then go back. A Mr. Raoul Lambert was at the station; he was the person who was to bring me

to a farmer's place in Guy. He had a big wagon pulled by two horses. The voyage was long. We arrived at 4:00 p.m. at Lionel Drouin's, the farmer I was to work for. I stayed there for seeding time. The hours were long and the pay was about \$75.00 a month. Then I worked for Honore Maisonneuve's Sawmill in Golden, B.C. for two months. I came back to Guy because I had leased a 1/2 section of land, N.W. 33-74-20-W5th through the V.L.A. I broke some new land that summer, helped with the harvest at Drouin's in the fall and went back to the lumber camps in the winter. I cleared more land in 1951. In the winter of 1952-53, I was working in the logging camp at Honore Maisonneuve's at McLennan. There I met this young girl who was staying with her parents in the camp. Her name was Henriette Perry, daughter of Emile Perry and Pauline Vezina of McLennan, Alberta. Her parents lived in Donnelly at the time of her birth. They moved to a farm in the District of McLennan when she was very young. She is the third child of a family of ten. The courtship became serious. We were married 05-11-1953.

Seeing that farming was not for me, I let my lease go back to V.L.A. and moved to Prince George, B.C. in July 1956. There I worked as a faller and in July 1980 I moved to Terrace, B.C. where we are presently living. In Terrace I've worked as a faller until 1980. Due to a back injury I had to quit falling and went into construction of highways, mines and Methanol Plant. I am now semi-retired.

Things I noticed while living in Guy. The church was much smaller than the ones in Quebec, villages were far apart, roads were almost impossible even with a team of horses when it rained due to that gumbo. Drinking water was the worst thing for me. I could never get adjusted to the taste, and of course mosquitoes were a real menace. My first crop of grain in Guy failed and that discouraged me. But this Rev. Father Gagnon was right when he said there was a future in the west, because I didn't intend to stay too long, yet after thirty six years, though I'm not living in Guy, I'm still in a Western province. My wife and I go back visiting in Donnelly, McLennan and the surroundings quite often.

Fernand Gagnon: n. 21-07-1922

m. 05-11-1953 in McLennan by Father Lessard.

Henriette Perry: n. 23-10-1935

Children:

1) Pauline: n. 09-07-1955

m. James Rocky Grey --2 girls

2m. Ted Wyatt--1 boy, 1 girl

They are living in Terrace, B.C.

2) Jules: n. 23-03-1957
m. 07-82 Bernadette Allen
They are living in Toronto
3) Emile: n. 10-12-1963
Living in Terrace, B.C.
4) Donald: n. 10-12-1964
Living in Terrace, B.C.

* * *

Je fus soldat durant la seconde guerre, environ quatre ans. J'ai vu du pays et visité l'Europe. Après la guerre il n'y avait plus de travail pour moi à la maison je suis donc parti travailler dans le bois en Ontario.

Par la suite j'ai appris qu'il y avait de l'avenir dans l'ouest pour les soldats et que je pouvais obtenir une ferme en passant par les vétérans.

Je suis arrivé à Donnelly le 15 avril 1950, où M. Raoul Lambert m'attendait. J'ai travaillé pour Lionel Drouin et Honoré Maisonneuve à Golden, C.B. Je suis revenu défricher du terrain à Guy. En travaillant au camp d'Honoré Maisonneuve, j'ai rencontré Henriette Perry et nous nous sommes mariés. Le métier de fermier n'était pas le mien, je suis allé m'installer en Colombie-Britannique, en juillet 1956. Nous vivons maintenant à Terrace où je suis à demi retiré.

GAGNON, JOSEPH ISAAC & SERGEANT, IDA CHARLOTTE

by grand-daughter Susan

On the 27th of April, 1903, Joseph Isaac Gagnon was born. His parents were Isaac and Rosanne Lamoureux Gagnon.

Joseph's arrival completed the family of four children. His father, Isaac, worked hard to support his family with his farming operation in the Fort Vermillion area.

In the spring of 1905, when he was just two years old, he lost his father, who died of pneumonia while freighting machinery from Edmonton to Fort Vermillion. Then when he was barely four, he lost his mother.

Now an orphan at the age of four, Joe was cared for by the Sisters at the Roman Catholic Mission in Fort Vermillion until 1918.

At the age of fifteen, Joe entered the work force as an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company. This job brought him into contact with many traders including one Carl Wolfter, a seasoned American trapper, who was to have a tremendous influence on Joe's life.

Joe had learned from Carl to challenge life instead of allowing it to pass him by. He realized



Herbert Gagnon, Joe at the mission.

that life was essentially a matter of survival of the fittest. He learned independence and learned how to cope with the "bad" years as well as the "good" years. Joe was indebted to Carl for his move away from the north country.

Consequently, it was no surprise that Joe moved to the Peace River Country in 1919 on the "D.A. Thomas" River boat. He accepted a job in Spirit River working for the railroad which was to go through Dawson Creek linking Alberta to the British Columbia coast line.

Joe continued working for the railroad until the spring of 1921, when he left for southern Alberta where he worked on farms and ranches in the Gleichen-Cluny area.

This exposure to "cowboy" country was not without its rewards. By 1926, he became involved in horse trading, breaking them and selling them in the Peace River Country.

One of Joe's many experiences was bringing carloads of horses that he had "broke". Many of the horses trained were used in the 36 horse team that used to participate in the Calgary Stampede.

His real experience with horses was gained in 1924-1925 when a previous employer, who went broke, gave him 250 horses in lieu of salary.



Ida & Joe Gagnon.

He continued in this line of work until 1928. Then he began to work for Floyd Kresge who had a government contract with the Department of Highways.

On December 7th, 1927, Joe filed on a homestead which was located SE 09-76-21-W5 and bought another quarter from the Hudson's Bay Company.

While engaged in his homesteading endeavours, he continued to take contracts from Kresge as circumstances demanded and as the rigours of his farming activities permitted.

His venture into homesteading was to lay the foundation for his future independence and security. Then in the winter of 1928, he met Ida Charlotte Sergeant whom he married on June 17th, 1929. Ida, who hailed from Rumford, Maine, U.S.A., was born on June 25th, 1912. Ida was known to be the best biscuit, pancake and popsicle maker. Bud Caron's little children would walk the mile just to get one of Ida's popsicles. Ida knitted many a "Siwassh" or cow-ichan sweater which she sold. Ida lived in Grimshaw from 1948-1953 so her children would have a better education.

Joseph Gagnon continued working in the off-season for the Department of Highways and



Baby Jim, Ernest, Donald, Grace, Alice & Richard.

breaking the homestead quarter section. In addition, he supplemented his earnings by cutting and hauling ice from the Little Smoky River to Falher. Before long, he was also hauling grain and livestock for other farmers by horse-drawn wagons.

When World War II broke out he bought a tractor and a threshing machine to use from farm to farm. During this period he rented available farm land. He became involved in raising pigs in addition to grain farming. In 1949, he started a sawmill business in the Whitemud area and continued in this enterprise until 1954.

In 1957, Joe and Ernest became involved in raising cattle. They continued with this venture until 1967 when Joe's wife, Ida, died. At this time father and son decided to forego their interest in raising cattle and pigs and concentrated on grain farming.

Consequently, this enabled Joe to spend his winters every year in Vancouver, with his son



Marvin Moore presenting Jos Gagnon the Alberta 75th Anniversary Award.

Don. He did this until his deteriorating health prevented him from travelling.

In 1977, due to his health, he sold his farm holdings to his son Ernest and he retired from active farming. He continued to take a keen interest in the farm.

In the winter of 1979-1980 he stayed in the Old Folk's Home in High Prairie. Following this he moved to the Villa Beauséjour in Falher where he remained until January of 1985. Later he found it necessary to move to the Nursing Home in McLennan in January, 1985. He died January 5, 1986.

Joseph Gagnon: n.27-04-1903 m.17-06-1929 d.05-01-1986

Ida Charlotte Sergeant: n.25-06-1912 d.27-04-1967

CHILDREN:

1. Donald: n.13-06-1931 m.31-03-1955
Marge Albinati. They have four children: Thomas, Pearl, Daniel and Sharon.
2. Grace: n.03-10-1933 m.19-06-1950
Charles Howe. They have two children, Ernest and Fern.
3. Ernest: n.05-01-1935 m.15-11-1954 Céline Albinati. They have three children: Susan, Douglas and Gail.
4. Pearl: n.11-05-1937 d.07-04-1938
5. Richard: n.26-10-1939 m.02-08-1965
Claire Dechief. They have three children: Kenny, Ronnie and Rachel.
6. Alice: n.26-08-1941 m.27-12-1957
Henry Minarovich. They have four children: Duane, Tammy, Ricky, and Clayton.
7. James: n.07-02-1943 m.15-02-1963
Diane Dupuy. They have two children: Carol and David.

Joe led a full life and commanded the respect of all those with whom he came in contact. He had a keen sense of humour and was renowned for his priceless, original, idiomatic expressions. These were usually accompanied with that delightful twinkle in his eye that was so characteristic of his good nature.

In the later years of his life, and especially following the death of his wife, Joe pursued gardening as his hobby. He was soon an avid rose gardener and spent many long hours tending his beloved roses. He always welcomed anyone who cared to drop in for a cup of coffee and a "chat".

Joe's years in Southern Alberta made him renowned as an outstanding horseman. Joe was well known in local circles as "Big Joe".

In 1955, Joe received a scroll from the Province of Alberta for being a resident of the province for 50 years. In 1980, Joe received a 75

year scroll and a gold medallion for being a resident of the province for 75 years.

* * *

Le 27 avril 1903, Joseph Isaac Gagnon vint compléter la famille de quatre enfants d'Isaac et de Rosanne Lamoureux. Son père cultivait dans la région de Fort Vermilion, Alberta.

Au printemps de 1905, alors qu'il n'avait que deux ans, il perdit son père qui mourut de pneumonie. Ensuite, quand il eut à peine quatre ans, il perdit sa mère. Véritable orphelin, il fut pris en soin par la Mission catholique à Fort Vermilion.

A l'âge de quinze ans, Joe devint employé de la Compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson. Cet emploi lui fit connaître plusieurs commerçants entre autre un certain Carl Wolfter, trappeur américain, qui aurait une grande influence sur Joe.

Carl mourut tragiquement cette année là. De cette expérience Joe apprit à faire un défi de la vie.

Conséquemment, en 1919 il déménagea à Peace River par bateau "le D.A. Thomas". Il accepta un emploi avec la compagnie du chemin de fer à Spirit River. En 1921, Joe travailla sur des fermes et des ranchs dans la région de Gleichem-Cluny.

Au pays des cowboys en 1926, il fit le commerce de chevaux, les apprivoisant et les vendant dans la région de Rivière-la-Paix. Plusieurs de ces chevaux ont été utilisés dans l'attelage de 36 chevaux au "Calgary Stampede".

Il continua dans cette veine jusqu'en 1928 quand il commença à travailler pour Floyd Kresge qui avait un contrat avec le Ministère de la voirie.

Le 7 décembre 1927, Joe prit un "homestead" et acheta un quart de la Compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson. Tout en défrichant, il continua à travailler pour Kresge.

Il rencontra Ida Charlotte Sergeant en 1928 et l'épousa le 17 juin 1929. Ida était originaire de Rumford, Maine, aux Etats-Unis. Elle était connue comme excellente cuisinière. Elle tricotait bien et fit des gilets "Siwassh" et "Cowichan". Ida vécut à Grimsbaw de 1948-1953 pour permettre à ses enfants d'avoir une meilleure éducation.

Joe continua à défricher le "homestead" et en hiver il coupait et transportait de la glace de la rivière Little Smoky à Falher. Plus tard, il charroyait avec des chevaux du grain et du bétail pour les fermiers.

Quand la deuxième guerre mondiale éclata

il acheta un tracteur, une machine à battre et battait le grain d'une ferme à l'autre. Durant cette période il loua du terrain et augmenta sa productivité comme fermier. Il entreprit l'élevage de porcs en plus de la culture du grain. De 1949 à 1954, il avait un moulin à scie dans la région de Whitemud.

En 1957, Joe et son fils, Ernest, commencèrent l'élevage du bétail. En 1967, après le décès d'Ida, ils décidèrent de discontinuer l'élevage et de se concentrer sur la culture du grain.

Plus libre, Joe pouvait passer les hivers à Vancouver avec son fils, Don. En 1977, à cause de sa santé, il vendit sa ferme à Ernest.

Il passa l'hiver 1979-1980 au foyer de High Prairie. Plus tard, il déménagea à la Villa Beauséjour à Falher où il demeura jusqu'en janvier 1985. Il déménagea à Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan en janvier 1985. Il mourut le 5 janvier 1986.

GAGNON, PAUL & DESFOSSÉS, ALBERTA

par Suzanne Gagnon Lachance

Paul, fils de Donat et Marie Jeanne Lauzon épouse Alberta Desfossés fille de Roméo et Maria Coulombe, le 17 juillet 1946 et s'établit en permanence à Guy. Avec son père et son frère André, Paul est un des trois sociétaires de la compagnie "Donat Gagnon et Fils". Maintenant que son père et son frère André sont installés à la boucherie de Girouxville Paul continue l'opération de la ferme à Guy. En plus de la culture du terrain il élève des Aberdeen Angus et fournit en partie la viande nécessaire à la boucherie. Cela nécessite la fenaison pour l'hivernement de ce troupeau. L'été il y a toujours beaucoup à faire; de plus il a lieu de s'inquiéter de la température – pas de pluie au temps des foins et assez de pluie pour les champs de grain. Comme Paul avait aidé son père, c'est maintenant au tour des garçons de Paul de prêter main forte à la besogne. Paul est aussi soudeur, ce qui accomode les gens des alentours qui viennent faire réparer leurs machines agricoles. Les cours que Paul avait suivis à Olds dans sa jeunesse lui sont très utiles.

Pendant toutes ces années Alberta, la femme débrouillarde et vaillante seconde son mari et voit au bon fonctionnement de sa maison. Elle cultive un grand jardin avec l'aide de ses enfants; y récolte légumes et patates en quantité suffisantes pour suffir au besoin des mois d'hiver. Ceci demande beaucoup de travail car il faut faire des conserves car il n'y avait pas de congélateur dans ce temps-là.

Imaginez aussi la quantité de légumes à



R.1 Emile, Paulette, Paul, Alberta, Suzanne, Yolande et Gabriel. R.2 Michel, René, Claude, Lionel (Butch), Daniel, Gilles et Jacques.

peler et à préparer pour chaque repas. Je me rapelle aussi les douze à quinze beaux pains dorés refroidissant sur l'armoire à tous les trois jours, et les biscuits et beignes... à mon retour des classes. Quel arôme!

En plus de toute cette préparation de nourriture Alberta est très habile dans la couture. Elle défait des vêtements usagés et s'assure que chacun de ses enfants soit vêtu à la page. Elle insiste sur la propreté dans les vêtements comme partout ailleurs.

C'est donc dire qu'il n'y avait pas trop de temps libre; mais elle trouvait le temps de voir à ce que les devoirs scolaires se fassent et ce à la capacité de chacun de ses enfants. Elle et Paul ont toujours encouragé l'éducation de leurs enfants. Elle a même encouragé son aîné, René, à l'âge de seize ans, à se partir un commerce de charroiyage d'eau avec le camion réservoir et l'achat d'un engin à gas afin de pourvoir au besoin d'eau des voisins qui avaient des citernes. René se faisait un peu d'argent de poche et apprenait les rudiments des affaires.

Paul de son côté était un aïde du hockey. Il a joué à la défensive pendant ses années d'études et a continué plus tard pour l'équipe de Falher et celle de Guy. Quand ses fils furent d'âge à patiner Paul aida à la formation du Comité des Sports de Guy et en fut président pendant de nombreuses années. Il a été en grande mesure le responsable d'une patinoire en plein air à Guy. En plus de niveler le terrain il charroyait l'eau nécessaire pour la glace. Une fois organisé il fallait entretenir cette patinoire, enlever la neige après chaque bordée de neige. Paul et ses garçons aidés des voisins faisaient leur large part. Plusieurs jeunes qui fréquentaient l'école Langlois à ce temps ont appris à

patiner aux récréations grâce au bénévolat de Paul.

Il fut aussi entraîneur des équipes de jeunes à Falher, équipes dans lesquelles ses garçons participaient. Pendant l'hiver 1969-70 son équipe de Junior B a joué au niveau provincial.

Paul fut toujours au service du public. Déjà en 1950 plusieurs fermiers aux alentours de Guy voulant améliorer la condition des chemins encombrés de neige formèrent une sorte de coopérative sous l'initiative de Paul. Ils achetèrent un chasse-neige que Paul installa sur son Massey Harris 55 et pendant deux ans avant que la Municipalité M.D. # 130 eut existé, il débaya les chemins de la région de Guy. Comme paiement pour son temps, l'essence utilisée, l'usage de son tracteur, on lui a donné la charrue à neige, quand la Municipalité a entrepris l'entretien des chemins en 1952.

Paul s'impliqua aussi dans l'électrification rurale. Il a fait les démarches nécessaires, a été président de R.E.A. (Rural Electrification Association), pendant presque toute l'existence de cette association.

De 1958 à 1961 Paul fut élu commissaire de la commission scolaire de High Prairie # 48. C'est à ce temps que l'école Langlois a vu une expansion de douze classes avec trois cents quarante élèves.

Paul fut aussi chauffeur d'autobus scolaire pendant plusieurs années.

Pendant dix-sept ans Paul siegea sur le conseil municipal de Smoky River # 130. Il fut président de plusieurs comités. Cela veut dire des heures et des jours dépensés au service de la région, de nombreux voyages d'affaire, et de participation à des réunions et conventions. C'est à une de ces conventions à Edmonton, alors que Paul accompagné de son épouse mourut subitement. On se souviendra de lui comme ayant bien aimé et servi son milieu.

Paul Gagnon: n.30-09-1923 m.17-07-1946 d.23-11-1984

Alberta Desfosses: n.10-06-1929

ENFANTS:

1- René: n.28-04-1947 m.27-12-1968

Julienne Labrecque: n.18-10-1948

a) Nicole: n.06-03-1970

b) Vivianne: n.24-09-1971

c) Monique: n.29-12-1976

René est un mécanicien "Heavy-Duty" ainsi que fermier. Quand il n'est pas occupé sur sa ferme il prend des contrats pour les compagnies d'huile à Swan Hills. Il a acheté la demi-section W¹/₂ 3-75-20-W5 de Fred Bullen en 1976 et celle de Fernand Drouin N¹/₂ 9-75-20-W5 en 1977. C'est là qu'ils demeurent depuis 1977.

2- Suzanne: n.14-05-1948 m.07-08-1976

Nelson Lachance: n.13-08-1938

(Voir Lachance, Nelson)

3- Michel: n.30-09-1949 m.22-05-1976

Yvonne Neufeld: n.27-11-1957

a) Antoine: n.12-01-1978

b) Jeannette: n.10-01-1980

c) Michelle: n.23-05-1982

d) Pauline: n.26-04-1985

Michelle est évaluateurs de terrains depuis 1970. La famille habite à Peace River.

4- Jacques: n.30-09-1950 m.30-09-1972

Marlene Kopp: n.09-08-1952

a) Mélanie: 21-07-1974

b) Darryl: n.23-08-1976

Jacques est mécanicien "Heavy-duty". Il a travaillé pour les compagnies d'huile à Swan Hill depuis 1971 jusqu'à son transfert à Cold Lake en 1985. Il travaille pour la compagnie Esso comme ingénieur conseil. Il demeure à Bonnyville.

5- Gilles: n.30-04-1952 m.30-08-1975

Valérie St-Amand: n.24-11-1954

a) Christine: n.24-12-1976

b) Rémi: n.24-07-1978

c) Rachelle: n.08-07-1980

d) Angèle: n.17-12-1981

e) Carolyne: n.18-06-1984

Carolyne: n.18-06-1984

Après avoir réussi un cours "Gas Technician"

Gilles est chargé du maintien de l'hôpital Sacré Coeur de McLennan. Valérie est infirmière et travaille aussi à McLennan, où ils demeurent. Gilles a acheté la terre de Sylva Servant N¹/₂ 10-76-20-W5 en 1975 et un quart de Kizic Duglosz SW¹/₄ 18-75-20-W5 en 1983.

6- Paulette: n.01-06-1953 m.14-05-1976

Derek Gill: n.17-04-1950

a) Pamela: n.31-08-1979

b) Paul: n.04-07-1981

Paulette est infirmière à l'hôpital Holy Cross à Calgary et demeure à Crossfields.

7- Daniel: n.31-08-1954 m.30-06-1979

Simone Blais: n.18-03-1959

(Voir Gagnon, Daniel)

8- Yollande: n.09-03-1956 m.13-11-1982

Earl Halladay: n.08-01-1947

a) Curtis: n.11-06-1983

b) Troy: n.04-02-1985

Yollande est sauveteur à la piscine de Grande Prairie. Elle est aussi comptable pour l'impôts et habite Grande Prairie.

9- Claude: n.03-07-1959 m.24-07-1982

Denise Maisonneuve: n.10-02-1959

a) Chantal: n.07-06-1983

b) Natalie: n.07-05-1987

Claude fait le maintien des ascenseurs à

Edmonton et Denise est une secrétaire légale. Ils habitent St. Albert. Claude a aussi acheté la terre de Paul Drouin SE 02-76-20-W5.

10- *Emile (jumeaux): n.02-03-1961*

En 1983 Emile a acheté de son père la terre de Roy Turner E¹/₂ 10-75-20-W5 et en 1985 de sa mère celle de Létourneau N¹/₄ 29-75-19-W5. Il demeure à Guy.

11- *Henri (jumeaux): n.02-03-1961 décédé d.20-03-1964*

12- *Lionel (Butch): n.13-03-1964 m.18-08-1984*

Marie Lavoie: n.02-05-1964

Marcel: n.08-01-1987

Lionel est plombier et Marie est assistante-infirmière. Butch est aussi l'associé de Claude dans l'achat de la terre de Paul Drouin. Ils demeurent sur un acrage à McLennan.

13- *Gabriel: n.03-11-1965*

Gaby travaille avec son frère René comme apprenti "Heavy-duty" mécanicien.

* * *

After his marriage to Alberta Desfosses July 17, 1946, Paul became one of three partners in the "Donat Gagnon et Fils" company. His father and brother owned and operated the Girouxville butcher shop, while Paul farmed the land in Guy and looked after the cattle that would eventually supply some of the meat needed in the butcher shop.

Apart from the farm work Paul was always active in sports playing hockey himself and later coaching the young people of the Falher-Guy community.

He was a key factor in obtaining electricity in the Guy area and in 1958 he became School Trustee for the High Prairie School Division # 48. It is at this time that the Langlois School expanded to twelve classes with three hundred forty students in attendance in grades one to twelve. For seventeen years he also served on the Smoky River Municipal Council.

It was while attending such a convention that he suffered a fatal heart attack.

GAMACHE, ADRIEN & LESSARD, ANNETTE

par Adrien Gamache

Je suis le fils de Joseph Gamache et d'Olive Garny de descendance irlandaise, né à Ste-Bridget, Cté d'Iberville, P.Q. J'ai passé une enfance heureuse à la ferme de mes parents. J'ai fréquenté l'école du village jusqu'en septième année pour ensuite continuer mes études au Collège classique de St-Jean d'Iberville.

A l'âge de vingt et un ans, en 1949, je me



Adrien Gamache et un ami Jos Bouchard. Voyage de retour.

lance dans la politique; deviens le plus jeune candidat parmi 250 pour représenter l'Union des Electeurs. Ce fut de courte durée, car le premier mai 1949 je partais avec un ami, Jean-Louis Dallaire pour Jean Côté. Ce dernier avait acheté du terrain l'année précédente. Je voulais voir l'ouest et c'était l'occasion de le faire.

Ce fut tout un voyage! Trajet de dix jours avec un vieux chevrolet 1934 qui ne fonctionnait pas quand il a été acheté à Montréal - camion sans freins - qui n'allait qu'à une vitesse de 35 milles à l'heure une fois que nous l'avions réparé. Nous avons même recouvert la boîte du camion avec du prélard pour garder nos vêtements secs. Imaginez traverser la ville de Toronto avec ça! Nous dormions assis dans le camion et nous étions si fatigués quand nous sommes arrivés à McLennan que nous avons pris le fossé. Heureuse arrivée dans la région!

Après quelques semaines de visites à Jean-Côté et deux semaines à ramasser des racines pour David Savard, je me rends à Guy au début de juin. Raoul Lambert, l'homme de tous métiers, m'embauche pour les travaux de la ferme et pour travailler à la construction du couvent. C'est là que je rencontre la pétillante Annette qui est pensionnaire au couvent. Ensuite je travaille au chantier de Raoul Lambert à Whitemud.

Pendant l'hiver de 1950-51 je retourne au Québec pour revenir au printemps avec mes amis Jos Bouchard et Albert Mercier; voyage de plaisir avec les copains. Je travaille deux ans sur la ferme de Wilfrid Bisson.

Je retourne au Québec pendant deux ans et c'est là que j'épouse Annette, fille d'Ephrem Lessard et Auxiliatrice Aubin.

Au printemps 1953 je reviens avec Annette et nous nous installons sur la ferme de mes beaux-parents où nous sommes demeurés pendant trois ans.

En automne 1956 nous déménageons à Valleyview pour ouvrir une boucherie en société avec M. Wilfrid Bisson.



Annette et Adrien Gamache.

Plus tard j'achète la part de M. Bisson et continue le commerce seul avec l'aide d'Annette. En 1964 je vends le commerce et achète la ferme de M. Jos Fortier que je revends à Donald Boivin et retourne à Valleyview comme boucher chez I.G.A.

Après avoir passé cinq ans à Fairview comme boucher nous retournons à Valleyview et je reprends mon emploi pour I.G.A. Je suis impliqué dans le conseil scolaire et Annette agit comme agent immobilier et achète plusieurs maisons. Elle est aussi chauffeur d'autobus scolaire et fait de la suppléance aux écoles du village. En 1981 j'obtins mon permis de commissaire-priseur. J'adore les enchères.

Nous avons fait plusieurs voyages au Québec mais nous aimons revenir chez nous en Alberta.
Adrien Gamache: n.19-01-1927 m. 07-04-1953 à Black Lake, P.Q.

Annette Lessard: n. 01-04-1937 à Falher.
ENFANTS:

1- Monique: n. 03-07-1954 m.

David Corestein (divorcé)

Ils ont deux enfants: Leisa et Venessa.

2- Norman: n. 10-11-1955

3- Ghislain (Luke): n. 11-02-1958

4- Christine: n. 06-08-1962

5- Marcia: n. 12-07-1970



R.1 Venessa et Leisa Corestein. R.2 Monique, Christine, Annette Gamache. R.3 Auxiliatrice Lessard, Marcia Gamache. R.4 Norman, Adrien, Luke Gamache.

* * *

I was born in the province of Québec and spent a happy childhood on my parent's farm. I attended school there, and took my classical course at St. Jean d'Iberville.

In 1949 at twenty years of age I attempted to go into politics; I was the youngest of 250 candidates. My political interests soon dwindled, for on May 1st, 1949, I left Québec to come west with a friend, Jean-Louis Dallaire.

After a few weeks of visiting in Jean-Cote, then two weeks spent at picking roots for David Savard, I went on to Guy in early June. Raoul Lambert, a jack-of-all trades, hired me to work on his farm and to help at the construction of the convent. This is where I met the lively little Annette who was boarding at the convent. I then worked at Raoul Lambert's lumber camp at Whitemud.

In the winter of 1950, I returned to Québec to come back with friends. I worked on Mr. Wilfrid Bisson's farm for two years. Back in Québec once again, I married Annette, the daughter of Ephrem and Auxiliatrice Lessard who were living in Black Lake, P.Q. at the time. In the spring of 1953, Annette and I came back west where we lived on her parent's farm for three years.

In the fall of 1956 we moved to Valleyview where I opened a butcher shop in partnership with Wilfrid Bisson. Later on, I bought Mr. Bis-

son's share and Annette worked with me. In 1964, I sold the shop and bought Jos Fortier's farm which I then sold to Donald Boivin. Back in Valleyview, I became the butcher at the I.G.A. store, five years as a butcher in Fairview, then back to Valleyview again at I.G.A. I am a member of the school board and Annette is in the Real Estate business. She also drives the school bus, and acts as a substitute teacher at the school in town. In 1981, I became a licensed auctioneer.

We have made several trips to Québec but are always happy to come back home to Alberta.

GENDRON, OVIDE & GIROUARD, MARIE-JEANNE

by Joanne Gendron Gervais

Ovide Gendron came west from Duparquet, Quebec in the fall of 1949 and went to work for Wilfrid Bisson in Guy.

He took a homestead two miles east of Guy in the spring of 1950.

Ovide married Marie Jeanne Girouard of Girouxville in July of 1952. They had three children.

Ovide moved from Guy in 1973. He relocated in Jouvassard in 1977 when he married Gilberte Gagnon.

He passed away in January 1985 and is buried in the parish of Guy Cemetery.

Ovide Gendron: n. 14-02-1919

m. 31-07-1952

2m. 1977

d. 1985

Marie Jeanne Girouard: n. 27-03-1927

2m. Gilberte Gagnon

Children:

1) Therese: n. 20-04-1951

m. 06-02-1969

Andre Bourgeois: n. 05-11-1945

a) Ky Lee: n. 02-01-1971

b) Kelly: n. 02-08-1977

2) Gerald: n. 15-02-1953 m. 1981

Carol Cadieux:

a) Tina: n. 1975

b) Gary: n. 1976

c) Amanda: n. 1980

3) Joanne: n. 15-02-1954 m. 07-02-1975

Denis Gervais: n. 01-04-1948

a) Scott: n. 12-07-1971

b) Shawn: n. 12-07-1976

c) Jennifer: n. 23-11-1977

* * *

Ovide vint dans l'Ouest en 1949 et travailla pour Wilfrid Bisson à Guy. Il a pris une ferme à deux milles à l'est de Guy en 1950. Ovide déménagea de Guy en 1973 et alla à Jouvassard en 1977, quand il maria Gilberte Gagnon.

GILBERT, DELIMA

par Lucille Fortier-Gosselin

Délina Gilbert est née à Ste-Rose, Dorches-ter, P.Q. en 1893.

Après que Joseph Fortier fut rendu dans l'ouest et trouvant le pays bien beau, il offre à Délina, une connaissance du Québec, de venir faire la cuisine et tenir maison pour lui. Il lui dit combien est beau le terrain et que ça serait idéal pour élever des animaux; ce qu'elle aime faire. Il la payerait 10,00 \$ par mois et lui donnerait un quart de terre en garantie sur ses gages. Délina qui aime beaucoup les animaux accepte contre le gré de ses parents. Elle prend le train accompagnée de Enée Fortier qui n'a que 12 ans et se rend sur la terre en question, NO-35-76-21- W5 à Guy. Ils sont assez bien installés et Enée demeure avec eux jusqu'à ce que Cyrille Fortier arrive.

Délina était une fille forte et travaillante; elle passait beaucoup de temps avec ses animaux; elle leur parlait comme si c'était des personnes. En plus de ses bêtes à cornes elle avait plusieurs chiens et chats. Chacun avait un nom. Elle les nourrissait très bien et tous ses animaux étaient en bonne condition physique; gras avec des poils soyeux.



R.1 G rald, Th r se. R.2 Joanne, Ovide et Jeanne Gendron.



Délina et ses chevaux.

Délina avait très bon coeur et aimait bien la visite quoiqu'elle ne sortait pas souvent. Elle était occupée avec ses animaux et ne trouvait pas le temps de se promener. Pour recevoir les enfants qui allaient chez-elle, il y avait toujours des bonbons ou du sucre à la crème.

Délina laissa cette terre comme elle avait vécu, sans déranger personne. Elle est morte d'une attaque du coeur pendant son sommeil le 12 octobre 1962 à l'âge de 69 ans. Elle est partie sans se plaindre à personnes qu'elle était malade. Elle repose dans le cimetière de Guy.

* * *

Délina Gilbert was born in Québec in 1893. After Joseph Fortier's arrival in the west, he wrote Délima, an old acquaintance, to come and keep house for him. He told her that the place was also ideal for raising cattle. He would pay her \$10.00 a month and give her a quarter section of land as a guarantee towards her wages. Délima accepted the position despite her parents' protest. She arrived on the train accompanied by Enée Fortier who was only twelve years old. They settled down nicely.

Délina was a strong, hard-working woman. She spent a lot of time talking to her animals as if they were people. In addition to the cattle, she had several dogs and cats, and each one had a name. She took good care of the animals and they all thrived. She seldom went out to visit but enjoyed the company of those who came to see her.

Délina left this world quietly, just as she had lived. She died of a heart attack in her sleep on October 12, 1962. She was 69 years old and is buried in Guy.

GINGRAS, JEREMIE

par Gilberte Lemay

M. Jérémie Gingras est de Opatatika, Ontario. Il a pris le "homestead" S.E. 25-75-21. C'était un célibataire, homme jovial qui aimait à rire et à faire rire ceux qui l'entouraient. Lui aussi aimait bien jouer aux cartes; alors les jours de l'arrivée du courrier, il venait avec son ami, Arsène Fournier, chercher son courrier à Forest View et en profitait pour jouer aux cartes avec la famille Lambert.



Jeux de croquet chez Aurèle Lambert. Germaine, Omer, Carméline, Gilberte Lambert, Roland Bastien, Alphonse Martel, Jérémy Gingras, Raoul Lambert, Georges Bastien, Raymond Cloutier, Raoul Leclair.

M. Lambert avait aussi un jeu de croquet comme amusement pour l'été. Ce jeu l'intéressait beaucoup. Comme il demeurait tout près, quand il voyait quelqu'un jouer au croquet, il s'y rendait tout de suite.

Après plusieurs années, il alla se promener dans l'Est et il y est resté. C'est par correspondance, qu'en 1942, il vendit sa terre à Omer et Raoul Lambert. Cette terre appartient aujourd'hui à Monsieur Edmund Kaupp.

* * *

Mr. Jérémie Gingras came from Opatatika, Ontario. He took a homestead. He was single, a jovial man who liked to laugh and make others laugh. He also liked to play cards, so on mail days he would come with his friend Arsène Fournier to get his mail at Forest View and would play cards with the Lambert family.

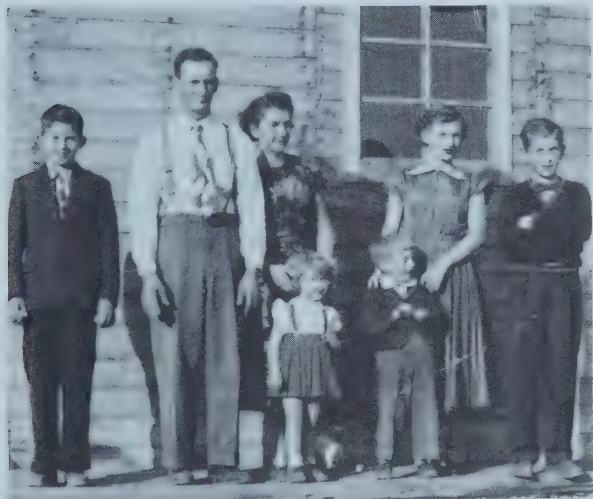
Mr. Lambert also had a game of croquet for summer. This game held a lot of interest for him. As he lived close by, as soon as he would see someone play croquet he would come over immediately.

After many years he went on a trip down east and stayed there. In 1942, he sold his land to

Omer and Raoul Lambert. This land now belongs to Mr. Edmund Kaupp.

**GOSSELIN, AIME & FONTAINE, IDA & 2M
DESILET, ALICE**

Pendant l'hiver 1947-48 on entend beaucoup parler de colonisation dans l'Ouest. Au printemps, en avril 1948, nous faisons le grand pas. Pour ma femme, ce fut une longue et difficile décision. En plus de quitter sa place natale, elle devait aussi quitter ses parents Adéland et Célénire(Gaudreault) Fontaine et sa famille de qui nous étions voisins. Aussi notre petit Laval venait de mourir, à un an et demi. A part ça, il y avait les commodités comme l'eau courante, électricité, le téléphone, de bons chemins qu'il nous fallait abandonner. Tout de même, ma femme, nos trois enfants et moi-même quittons St-Paul, comté de Montmagny, par chemin de fer à destination de Guy où ma famille nous attend. Notre ménage, quelques outils et notre van avaient été chargés sur un char de "freight" et nous suivaient de quelques jours. Nous faisions partie d'un groupe de colons se dirigeant vers Marie-Reine, Jean Côté Guy et Girouxville. Jean Bouilly s'acheminait aussi vers Guy.



Yvon, Aimé, Ida, Thérèse, Philippe, Yolande, Clément

Une fois rendus à Donnelly où mon père nous a rencontrés, nous prenons la route pour Guy en voiture tirée par les chevaux. Je dis route mais ce n'est que boue et eau. La route est presque impassable. On arrive chez mon père, Ernest Gosselin, qui nous avait préparé un logis – un vieux poulailler, nettoyé bien sûr, avec un mur presque tout en fenêtre pour de la clarté pour les poules, chose qui était bien plaisante pour nous aussi.

Peu après notre arrivée le curé de la paroisse, le Père Lechasseur, arrive à notre humble demeure pour me demander un service, vu que je possédais une van, voiture fort commode dans ce temps-là. Alors le bon curé me dit comme ça: "Tu vas aller conduire Mme. Léopold Lafleur à l'hôpital de McLennan, car son bébé doit naître bientôt. "Comme le chemin était encore tout en boue et eau, (que je considérais impassable) je lui répond: "Je ne vais pas là." Et lui de me répondre à son tour: "Je ne te dis pas que tu ne vas pas là; tu vas y aller." Il n'était pas question de refuser dans ce pays de colons. Il fallait rendre service, pas d'argument. En cas de rester pris, j'ai rassemblé quelques hommes et on s'est mis en chemin. Heureusement, tout s'est bien passé.

Quelques mois plus tard, nous avons une naissance nous aussi, celle de Philippe, le dernier des garçons.

J'ai vite appris ce système d'entraide. Les fermiers ayant pris connaissance que j'étais habile dans le métier de vétérinaire me demandaient souvent de leur aider, surtout aux naissances difficiles des petits veaux.

Je le faisais généralement sans frais, pour rendre service. J'ai même extrait des dents pour les gens des alentours, pour des métis qui venaient travailler pour des fermiers et même au couvent dans des cas de grandes douleurs. Un autre service que j'ai pu rendre était d'arrêter les saignements, don que j'avais même oublier que je possédais.

Le premier automne de notre arrivée, mon père m'encouragea à faire l'achat d'un moulin à battre. Nous avons embauché M. Aimé Lemay pour faire l'opération de cette machine, vu qu'il s'y connaissait dans ce domaine. Mon père racheta de moi cette machine après les récoltes. Ceci me permit de faire l'achat d'un tracteur à chenille, avec lequel j'ai pu gagner un peu d'argent à "piler" des arbres, pour ouvrir du terrain pour des fermiers voisins. Un tracteur aurait été un bien meilleur achat pour un fermier, mais les machines agricoles étaient rares après la guerre.

En 1950, j'ai pris comme "lease" S¹/₂ 12-76-21-W5 ou Yvan Lafleur avait demeurer. La cabane, eh bien--on voyait les étoiles à travers la couverture! C'était accablant pour Ida, mais étant une personne habile et énergique, elle eut vite fait de nous organiser un foyer très confortable et de servir de bons repas même avec les moyens limités à sa disposition. Elle aimait bien faire de petites sorties et s'est vite fait des amies.

Thérèse est née cette année-là, la dernière de nos cinq enfants.

Pendant les prochaines années, nous avons ouvert et cultivé ces terres tout en élevant des animaux. Il fallait tout faire à la main, bois de chauffage, charroyer l'eau pour les animaux, couper et transporter la glace pour la maison, cultiver le jardin, etc... La besogne est finalement devenue moins accablante avec l'arrivée de l'électricité et des autobus.

Les années se sont passées en s'améliorant toujours. Hélas, nous avons eu la grande peine de perdre Ida d'un "stroke" à l'hôpital. Les enfants se sont tous placés et mariés un par un. Philippe est fermier et demeure sur la ferme paternelle.



Deuxième mariage d'Aimé à Alice.

J'ai marié en secondes noces Mlle. Alice Desilet de Jean Côté, fille de Maurice Desilet et Eva Morissette. Elle est une pionnière de l'Ouest elle aussi, étant arrivée en 1945 d'Arvida, Saguenay, P.Q. Nous sommes semi- retirés depuis 1980 et demeurons toujours à Guy où je fais du jardinage comme passe-temps.

J'ai bien aimé la culture dans ce pays et je crois que j'ai pu accorder à nos enfants un meilleur train de vie que si nous étions restés dans l'Est. Je suis content d'avoir encore un fermier dans la famille et de voir que tous les autres aussi sont bien placés.

Aimé Gosselin: n. 09-09-1913
m. 21-07-1937

Ida Fontaine: n. 25-09-1916 d. 18-04-1966
d. 18-04-1966

2m. 22-04-1968 Alice Desilet: n. 20-08-1916

Enfants:

1) Yolande: n. 14-03-1938
m. 05-07-1960

George Bachand: n. 14-01-1936

a) Jocelyne: n. 10-01-1961
m. 05-10-1984

Carl Noster:

b) Dorine: n. 04-08-1963

c) Lorraine: n. 05-01-1967

d) Marc: n. 14-09-1973

2) Clément: n. 31-03-1939
m. 06-12-1969

Carolyn Cox: n. 15-07-1944

a) Mardy: n. 25-06-1967

b) Troy: n. 07-07-1970

3) Yvon: n. 24-02-1940
m. 03-12-1966

Bernice Verstrete:

a) Lynne-Anne: n. 13-03-1968

b) Debbie: n. 12-04-1970

4) Laval: n. 05-06-1941
d. 23-04-1942

5) Philippe: n. 30-08-1948
m. 18-06-1981

Lucie Hébert: n. 18-06-1942 (Voir Gosselin, Philippe)

6) Thérèse: n. 24-03-1950
m. 04-10-1968

Denis Hébert: n. 13-01-1946

a) Michel: n. 09-08-1972

b) Roger: n. 31-01-1974

c) Monique: n. 11-11-1976

* * *

During the winter of 47-48, we heard a great deal about settling out West so in the spring of 1948 we moved to Guy, leaving behind all the conveniences of life and my wife's family.

Furniture, tools and a van are all we took with us on the train. We lived in an old chicken coop that my father had prepared for us. I soon learned to share with other settlers. I helped them with sick cattle and could also stop bleeding and pull teeth when necessary.

In 1950, I took a lease where Yvan Lafleur had dwelt. One could see the stars through the roof of his house but my wife made a home of it. She was a good cook and liked to go out to make friends. Everything was done by hand on the farm.

My wife later died of a stroke and the children settled down one by one. I married again and we are now semi-retired.

GOSSELIN, ARTHUR & DESNOYERS, MARY

par Gilberte Lemay

Dès le début de cette paroisse, Arthur Gosse-

lin prit un "homestead" le NE 13-76-21 et y demeura avec son épouse, Mary Desnoyers. Il y défricha et cultiva plusieurs acres de terre. Malgré sa faible santé il vaquait aux occupations de sa ferme et encore trouvait le temps de participer aux activités paroissiales. On se rappelle quand en 1941 il planta des arbres pour la procession de la fête Dieu. Aux pique-niques paroissiaux il était toujours là pour aider.

Plus tard il vendit sa terre à M. le Dr Bouilly et acheta la terre de Raymond Cloutier, le NE 24-75-21, et ils y déménagèrent.

Au printemps de 1946 il allait à Donnelly chaque semaine avec ses chevaux chercher les marchandises pour le magasin que son beau-frère, M.C.W. Ellis, tenait à Guy Mais toujours sa santé s'affaiblissait, et il dut abandonner les durs travaux.



Mme Mary Gosselin, Noël de 1955.

C'est le 4 juillet 1951 qu'il rendit son âme à Dieu. Son corps repose dans le cimetière de Guy.

Mme Mary Gosselin demeura encore quelques temps sur sa ferme, et elle allait souvent à Edmonton visiter ses enfants.

En septembre 1953 elle acheta une petite maison au village de Guy. Elle vendit sa terre à M. Félix Desbarnais, et alla demeurer au village; là où elle pouvait participer davantage à la messe et à toutes les activités. Elle était membre des Dames de Ste-Anne et aussi des dames Fermières.

En 1956, se sentant malade, elle s'en alla chez sa fille à Edmonton et elle n'est jamais revenue. C'est à l'hôpital d'Edmonton le 18 février 1957, après plusieurs mois de maladie, qu'elle quitta cette terre pour rejoindre son époux.

* * *

At the very beginning of this parish, Arthur Gosselin filed for a homestead and lived there with his wife, Mary Desnoyers. He cleared and cultivated several acres of land. Despite poor health, he looked after his farm and still found time to take part in the activities of the parish. Some time later, he sold his land to Dr. Bouilly and bought Raymond Cloutier's farm where he and his wife went to live.

In the spring of 1946 he would go to Donnelly every week, with his team of horses to fetch the goods for his brother-in-law's store in Guy.

But his health deteriorated and he had to stop working. He died on July 4, 1951 and was buried at the Cemetery at Guy.

Mrs. Mary Gosselin stayed on the farm for some time yet, and she often travelled to Edmonton to visit her children.

She sold her farm to Mr. Félix Desbarnais and moved into a little house which she had purchased in town, in 1953.

In 1956, feeling ill, she went to live with her daughter in Edmonton. She died in hospital in Edmonton on February 18, 1957 after a lengthy illness.

GOSSELIN, ERNEST & GAGNE (NEE CHABOT) LYDIA

par Jean Gosselin

Même si je n'avais que sept ans, je me souviens un peu de notre départ de St-Paul Du Button, Comté Montmagny, P.Q., pour un long voyage dans l'Ouest.

Mon père, Ernest Gosselin, fils de Napoléon Gosselin et d'Elmina Proulx avait décidé de venir s'installer à Guy sur une ferme où il croyait nous établir plus tard. En Alberta il y avait de l'avenir!

Alors le quatorze mai 1941 on prend la route avec un camion "Ford deux tonnes" que mon père avait acheté au Québec pour \$1300.00. Toute la famille embarque dans une espèce de "caboose" bâtie avec de la planche pour le voyage "pas grand luxe". C'était son premier camion et dans le temps les camions n'étaient pas trop modernes, pas de "power steering". Je me demande encore parfois comment on s'est rendu sain et sauf sans se perdre. Mon père parlait très peu l'anglais donc il a dû se débrouiller comme il pouvait avec des signes et des gestes pour demander les directions en chemin. Un M. Alphonse Brochu qui était venu avec nous autres lisait la carte et mon père conduisait. Imaginez-vous douze personnes dans cette



Ernest, Lydia Gosselin, 1941.

“caboose” avec notre ménage, vaisselle, linge et couvertures. On devait coucher et manger là-dedans avec deux bébés de onze mois, les jumelles Marie et Madeleine. Ça devait prendre beaucoup de courage pour un père et une mère de s'aventurer ainsi. Le soir nous arrêtions chez les fermiers le long du chemin ou près d'un lac où nous passions la nuit. Je crois que le voyage a pris dix jours.

Enfin nous arrivons à Guy le vingt-quatre mai 1941. Mon père achète un quart de terre de M. Aurèle Benoît, le N.W. 30-76-20 W5, où il y avait une grande maison de deux étages. Ma mère a toujours dit ce qui lui a manqué le plus, à son arrivée dans l'Ouest, c'était l'eau. Les maringouins étaient épouvantables et elle a dû s'habituer au “gumbo”, les petites robes blanches n'étaient pas pratiques. La maison était bien froide l'hiver, faute d'isolant. Ça n'en prenait du bois de chauffage! Nous n'étions pas riches et de l'ouvrage il y en avait tant qu'on en voulait, défricher la terre presque tout à la main pour commencer, pas de tracteur...les chevaux étaient nécessaires, dans ce temps-là. Mon père qui était ouvrier et briqueteur bâtissait des cheminées et faisait de la construction afin de gagner un peu d'argent. Encore il échangeait du temps pour se faire aider à défricher. Plusieurs familles qui sont arrivées après nous autres sont restées chez nous avant de s'établir sur leur ferme: les Drouin, Lafleur, Gagné, Blais, Larivière, et d'autres. Mon père ne laissait jamais personne dehors. Un “shack” de bois rond, la vieille Ecole Benoît que mon père avait achetée, pour faire un poulailler servait de maison pour plusieurs familles. Il se faisait un devoir d'accueillir les nouveaux colons Canadiens-Français.



La famille Ernest Gosselin avec le camion acheté pour faire le trajet à Guy. R.1 Hélène, Madeleine, Benoit, Marie, Lucille, Jean. R.2 Lydia, Rock, Ernest Gosselin, en arrière Alphonse Brochu.

Nous, les enfants avons été à l'école Benoît, petite école de campagne située à deux milles de chez nous. Nous devions marcher soir et matin. Pour des mois il n'y avait pas de maîtresse donc nous avions de plus grandes vacances. Plus tard les filles sont allées au couvent à McLennan, et mon frère Benoît au collège à Falher.

Je n'avais seulement que quatorze ans quand mon père, après une longue maladie est mort du cancer; donc j'ai dû prendre la responsabilité de la ferme avec l'aide de mes demi-frères, Aimé, Eddy et Archelas.

Eddy qui était déjà marié dut partir s'installer sur sa terre, Aimé avait sa famille lui aussi, mais ils nous aidaient quand même. Nous étions pas mal jeunes et avions souvent besoin de conseils.

Il fallait bien continuer à s'arranger du mieux qu'on pouvait. Ma mère tomba malade de l'arthrite et devint invalide—incapable de marcher. Elle dut prendre le lit en 1954. Les filles prenaient soin de ma mère et de la maison; nous les gars cultivions la terre, gardions quelques vaches, cochons et poules. Nous sommes venus à bout de survivre avec un peu d'argent gagné à travailler dans les chantiers l'hiver. Cela a continué jusqu'en 1956 quand l'amour m'a frappé et je me suis marié à Lucille Fortier de Donnelly.

Comme il n'y avait pas assez de terrain pour tous les gars, j'ai pensé d'aller travailler à salaire pour une couple d'années, afin de gagner un peu d'argent pour m'établir ailleurs. Rock, Benoît, et Guy ont pris charge de la ferme pendant quelques années.

Notre jeunesse a sûrement été des années bien agréables malgré toutes les épreuves et la pauvreté; grâce à de bons voisins qui nous ont

aidé. Dans le temps tout le monde s'entraidait durant les battages, le coupage du bois de chauffage, le charroyage de glace, etc. Tous ces travaux étaient normaux dans le temps.



R.1 Benoit Rock, Guy, Madeleine, Marie. R.2 Ernest, Lydia, Lucille, Hélène, Jean.

Pour se divertir on avait des "p'tit canots", veillées de famille. Parfois, à l'école Benoît ça dansait, chantait et les plus vieux jouaient aux cartes ou aux dames. Je me rappelle qu'une partie de dames pouvait durer pas mal longtemps quand Raoul Lambert et Aimé Gosselin jouaient ensemble; une fois la partie ne s'est pas terminée le même soir; ils l'ont finie le lendemain. C'était bien sérieux, personne n'avait le droit de parler. Les piches-nottes aussi étaient un jeu bien populaire pendant les longs hivers, un bon passe-temps mais aussi la cause de plusieurs accrochages, peut-être un peu de trichage aussi. Les règlements étaient souvent faits à mesure que ça devenait trop chaud et que quelqu'un se déclarait champion.

Ma mère aimait bien la visite et les voisins étaient bien bons de venir la visiter, jouer une partie de cartes avec elle ou simplement venir jaser et rire.

Quand le foyer Notre Dame Du Lac à McLennan ouvrit, ma mère y alla et ce fut sa demeure jusqu'à sa mort en 1969. Par ce temps-là nous étions tous mariés et partis de la maison paternelle.

Ernest Gosselin veuf avec deux enfants: Aimé et Cécile se maria avec veuve Lydia Gagné, fille de Onézime Chabot et Emma Rioux, qui avait elle aussi deux enfants, Eddy et Arché-las (Archie).

Ernest Gosselin: n. 18-03-1893

d. 01-02-1950

1m Lucia Boulet: 26-11-1912

2 enfants:

Aimé et Cécile

2m Lydia Gagné: n. 21-03-1900

d. 03-07-1969

Enfants:

1) Lucille: n. 11-06-1933

m. 15-06-1955

Maurice Beaudoin: n. 24-06-1928 (voir Beaudoin, Maurice)

2) Jean: n. 06-05-1934

m. 18-07-1956

Lucille Fortier: n. 24-04-1938 (voir Gosselin, Jean)

3) Rock: n. 13-05-1935

d. 08-05-1961

4) Marc: n. 10-07-1936

d. 13-07-1937

5) Hélène: n. 11-09-1937

m. 05-07-1962

Léo Fournier: n. 02-07-1927

a) Bertrand

b) Roland: d.

c) Laurent

d) Alain

e) Claudia: d.

6) Marie: n. 01-06-1940 m. 21-02-1962

Theo Van Den Elzen:

a) Michael

b) Ronald

c) Linda

7) Madeleine: n. 01-06-1940

m. 07-11-1957

Réal Beaudoin: n. 23-08-1929

a) Myriam

b) Daniel

c) Rita

d) Angèle

e) Norman

f) Darcy

g) Donald

8) Benoît: n. 21-04-1939

m. 28-12-1963

Rollande Bastien: n. 30-09-1941

a) Carolynne

b) Renée

9) Guy: n. 13-12-1941

m. 06-11-1965

Thérèse Garand:

a) Jocelyne

b) Nicole

c) Lynn

* * *

On May 14th, 1941, we started off in a two-ton Ford and a kind of caboose to go west. I was seven, Mr. Alphonse Brochu did the map-reading and father did the driving. We were twelve

riding in the caboose with our furniture, dishes, linen and blankets. We arrived in Guy on the 24th.

Mother found that the water conditions, the mosquitoes and the gumbo were difficult to get used to. Dad, a brick-layer and carpenter, built chimneys and did some construction to earn a bit of money or he would exchange hours for help in breaking land.

Many families who came after us would stay at our place before taking up their own land. The old Benoît school was the welcoming shack.

We walked two miles to Benoît school. Later on, the girls went to McLennan and Benoît, my brother to Falher.

I was only fourteen when father died of cancer so I had to farm with my half-brothers. We struggled. Mother got sick and became an invalid. The girls took care of her and the home. In winter we went to lumber camps.

Our youth was agreeable nonetheless, everyone helping out the neighbors during harvest, to cut firewood, to load and haul ice. To entertain ourselves we had family evenings where we would dance when others played cards or checkers or pinochle.

GOSSELIN, JEAN BAPTISTE (TI-JEAN) & FORTIER, LUCILLE

par Jean Gosselin

En 1959 mon frère Rock et moi-même avons repris les terres de ma mère qui était veuve. Nous étions pour cultiver ensemble pour un certain temps et nous séparer plus tard quand les affaires deviendraient meilleures, mais au printemps 1961, Rock est victime d'un accident dans le chantier en Colombie Britannique, donc j'ai dû rester seul avec les terres paternelles. Benoît allait au collège et voulait prendre un cours pour devenir "Machiniste". Guy se disait trop jeune et pas intéressé à devenir fermier. Quoique je n'étais pas riche j'ai réussi à garder la ferme paternelle. J'étais obligé d'aller travailler au chantier l'hiver, à la construction de chemins l'été, mais ma femme aimait bien la ferme. Nous avions déjà trois enfants en 1959 et nous pensions que c'était la meilleure place pour élever une famille même s'il fallait se passer de bien des luxes comme l'eau courante et l'électricité; nous étions heureux quand même. Nous sommes demeurés un été dans la maison paternelle mais c'était trop vieux. Nous nous avons bâtis une autre petite maison sur le grand chemin où nous vivons encore à présent. Les enfants étaient à la veille de commencer l'école et nous voulions être sur de bons chemins.



R.1 Lucille et Jean Gosselin. R.2 Marc, Roger, Robert, Donald.

Nous avons eu quatre garçons et ils sont tous allés à l'école Langlois de Guy et à la haute école G.P. Vanier à Donnelly. Trois de nos garçons sont maintenant mariés et nous avons présentement six petits enfants. Donald est mécanicien et Robert, machiniste. Roger et Marc sont restés sur la ferme et travaillent avec moi, ils s'agrandissent de terrain un peu à tous les ans, plus tard je ne sais s'ils prendront charge de toutes mes entreprises -- j'espère! A ma retraite!

Nous sommes bien satisfaits de ce que nous avons accompli même si les premières années ont été difficiles à cause du manque d'argent pour devenir fermier à plein temps. J'ai dû travailler dans les chantiers l'hiver pour une quinzaine d'années et ma femme restait seule sur la ferme. Ça n'a pas toujours été drôle, aucune commodité avant 1965. Mais nous avons tous une bonne santé et les affaires se sont arrangées avec les années. Aujourd'hui, avec mes garçons, nous cultivons quinze quarts de terres, avec des machines modernes; ce qui a bien amélioré notre style de vie comme fermiers. La vie continue pour le mieux en attendant l'année prochaine!

Jean Gosselin: n. 06-05-1934

m. 18-07-1956

Lucille Fortier: n. 24-04-1938

Enfants:

1) Michelle: n. 17-07-1955 (adoptée par M. and Mme. Ralph Chase)

m. 22-07-1972

Gary Arnott

2) Donald: n. 04-01-1957

m. 02-06-1976

Paulette Gariepy: n. 06-02-1957

- a) Michelle
- b) Carole
- c) Norman
- 3) Robert: n. 07-12-1957
m. 01-07-1978
- Jeannine Girard: n. 08-06-1959
- a) Daniel
- b) Diane
- c) Susan
- 4) Roger: n. 26-01-1959
m. 15-07-1981
- Joanne Therrien: n. 02-04-1958
- 5) Marc: n. 02-02-1964

* * *

After my brother Rock died in a work accident in 1961, I was left to farm my mother's land. Although I was not rich I managed to keep up the family farm working in lumber camps in winter and on road construction in summer. My wife loved the farm and we both thought it the best place to raise a family.

Two of my four sons stayed on the farm and are expanding the enterprise every year to the point where we now farm fifteen quarters.

GOSSELIN, PHILIPPE & HEBERT-LAMOTHE, LUCIE

by Philippe

I, Philippe, was born in McLennan on August 30, 1948, the youngest son of Aimé and Ida Gosselin. I went to Langlois School in Guy until grade eleven and for grade twelve I went to Falher. As there were no school buses the first two or three years, I walked one and three quarter miles to school. It was walking or staying in the convent.



R.1 Lucie Gosselin, Diana Lamothe, Mark Lamothe. R.2 Philippe Gosselin, Brian, Darcy, Arthur Lamothe.

After I finished school, I worked on the farm with my father, especially during seeding and harvesting. In the summer I'd work for Mr. Gérard Paradis, beekeeper. In the winter, I'd go work in the bush or on the oil rigs doing whatever job was available.

In the fall of 1972, I finally had my chance of buying three quarters of land from the Provincial Treasurer. That was land bought from retired farmers to resell to beginning farmers. I continued farming with my father until he retired in 1978. He then sold me the home quarter.

In 1977, I met my wife Lucie Hébert-Lamothe. Lucie, daughter of Philippe and Marie (Rey) Hébert of Falher, had five children. The two oldest Arthur, and Brian, are in Prince George, B.C. The three youngest Darcy, Diana, and Mark, are with us.

In the spring of 1978, Lucie and the children moved in with me on the farm. It was a big change in my life having an instant family but I loved it. The children kept their family name: Lamothe. We were married on June 18th, 1981.

Philippe Gosselin: n. 30-08-1948

m. 18-06-1981

Lucie Hébert-Lamothe: n. 18-06-1942

CHILDREN:

1- Arthur: n. 16-10-1963

2- Brian: n. 06-10-1964

3- Darcy: n. 25-01-1966

4- Diana: n. 25-12-1967

5- Mark: n. 06-04-1971

* * *

Fils cadet de Aimé et Ida Gosselin, je suis né à McLennan le 30 août 1948. J'ai fait mes études à l'école Langlois de Guy jusqu'à ma onzième année, puis j'ai fait ma douzième année à Falher.

Au début, il n'y avait pas de transport scolaire, alors pendant les deux ou trois premières années je marchais un mille et trois quarts pour me rendre à l'école. Si je n'avais pas voulu marcher j'aurais été pensionnaire au couvent.

Après mes études, je travaillais à la ferme avec mon père, surtout au temps des semailles et des récoltes. Pendant l'été, je travaillais comme apiculteur pour M. Gérard Paradis. En hiver, je travaillais aux chantiers et sur les puits d'huile.

A l'automne 1972, j'eus la chance de me procurer trois quarts de section de terre du gouvernement provincial. C'était des terres acquises des fermiers à la retraite et mises en vente pour des jeunes fermiers.

J'ai travaillé avec mon père jusqu'à sa retraite en 1978. Il m'a vendu son quart de section.

En 1977, je rencontrai Lucie Hébert Lamotte, mère de cinq enfants. Au printemps 1978, Lucie et ses enfants sont venus vivre avec moi à la ferme. Ce fut un grand changement pour moi, d'acquérir toute une famille d'un seul coup, mais je m'y suis plu.

Lucie et moi, nous nous sommes épousés le 18 juin 1981.

GRUBER, EMERIC JAMES & KATO, JULIANA

by Frank Gruber

Emeric James (Jim) Gruber was born September 13, 1903, in Mör, Hungary, to Ferenc and Juliana Gruber. As handed down by word of mouth, father was a bit of a hellion and his mother, having put up with his antics long enough, put him into a monastery to straighten him out. Needless to say, father did not take too kindly to his treatment and the first chance he got, climbed the walls of the monastery and made his way back home. Father had learned his lesson and worked his way to his first trade as a blacksmith.



R.1 Helene, Edith, Frank. R.2 Mrs. Gruber (mother), Mrs. Kato. R.3 James, Juliana.

From Hungary, he made his way to Paris, France, and learned a new trade as a mechanic and worked for Renault cars as a car test driver and then on to Salmson Motors, an aircraft engine manufacturer. As was customary at Salmson, the mechanic who assembled an engine was compelled to take its maiden flight with a test pilot. On one occasion however, the test pilot stalled the aircraft and crashed. The result of this

unfortunate incident killed the pilot and father spent 40 days in a coma. In later years, he was unable to serve in the R.C.A.F. during W.W. II when called for duty.

After recovering from the aircraft accident father briefly went back to Hungary and then left for Canada with his mother and sister arriving in the spring of 1928 and taking a homestead on the N.W. ¼ of 33-75-21. He worked for a Mr. Beauchamp who operated the post office in Falher, and in the spring of 1929 cleared and broke 5 acres of land.

In December of 1931, he met and married Juliana Kato in Estevan, Saskatchewan, and brought his new bride to the homestead where they carried on farming and raised four children. With the exception of myself, all of the other children of Jim and Juliana Gruber were born right at the farmhouse with father making the delivery. The distance to the nearest hospital was too great at the time.

In later years, father acquired a car which was the only vehicle around. He would be called upon to rush people to the McLennan Hospital. On one occasion, he was rushing a very pregnant lady to the hospital, encouraging her to hold on that they were almost there. But when they hit the railway crossing at McLennan, she delivered the child right there!

Being the district's blacksmith, he often received payment for his work in the form of livestock or work exchange. As years passed father experimented with electricity and bought one of the first wind driven generators in the district. The mast and generator are still standing to this date, a local landmark.

To break the monotony of the bleak prairie winters, father bought a house in Slocan City,



Jim Gruber with a cabbage from his garden.

B.C., and moved his family there in the fall of 1951. After that we would commute back and forth for seeding through to harvest.

He would then spend the winter in B.C. Father was an active member in the community, helping in the construction of the Falher Co-op Store, the Edgehill Hall, serving with the P.F.R.A. on several occasions, and many other events and organizations. As the family grew up and moved away, father remained on the farm and retired from farming in 1975. He sold the homestead to his son Frank. He remained on the farm until he passed away September 1979.

Emeric James Gruber: n. 13-09-1903

m. -12-1931

d.-09-1979

Juliana Kato

CHILDREN:

1- James (Jimmy): n. -09-1932

3 children: Martin, Robin and Garnet.

He is now living in Sidney, Australia

2- Helene: n. -08-1934

One child: Ingrid.

She is living in Edmonton, AB

3- Edith: n.

Two children: Brent and Christina.

She lives in Delta, B.C.

4- Frank: n. -10-1944

3 children: Christine, Ian and Natasha.

* * *

Emeric James Gruber naquit en Hongrie le 13 septembre 1903.

A ce que l'on dit, mon père était très espiègle, et à bout de patience, sa mère l'inscrit au monastère pour le redresser. Il va sans dire que mon père n'était pas content, et peu après, il sauta le mur du monastère et s'en revint chez lui. Il avait appris sa leçon et plus tard, il devint forgeron.

De la Hongrie, il partit pour Paris en France et apprit un nouveau métier en mécanique. Il travailla pour la compagnie Renault à monter les carrosseries. De là à la Société des Moteurs Salmson, où l'on fabriquait des moteurs pour avions, il était ajusteur moniteur.

C'était la coutume chez Salmson que le mécanicien qui avait monté le moteur était contraint à faire le vol d'essai avec le pilote. Une fois, cependant, le pilote bloqua le moteur et l'avion s'est écrasée. Le pilote mourut sur le coup et mon père passa quarante jours dans le coma. Bien des années plus tard il ne put servir dans l'aviation Canadienne lors de la

Deuxième Guerre Mondiale, quand il fut appelé dans les rangs.

Par la suite, mon père retourna en Hongrie puis peu après, il partit pour le Canada avec sa mère et sa soeur, arrivant au printemps 1928. Ils prirent un "homestead". Emeric travailla pour M. Beauchamp le maître de poste de Falher, et au printemps 1929, il défricha cinq acres de terre.

En décembre 1931, il épousa Juliana Kato à Estevan en Saskatchewan, puis il amena sa nouvelle épouse au "homestead" où ils cultivèrent la ferme et élevèrent quatre enfants. Tous les enfants sauf moi-même sont nés sur la ferme; papa aidant, vu que l'hôpital était trop loin. Quelques années plus tard, papa s'achetait une automobile, la seule dans les environs. On avait recours à lui pour amener des malades à l'hôpital. Une fois, alors qu'il conduisait une femme prête à accoucher, il l'encouragea et souhaitait avoir le temps d'arriver à temps. Pas d'affaire, à la traverse de la voie ferrée, à l'entrée du village de McLennan le bébé naquit.

Il était forgeron dans la région. Souvent on lui remettait du bétail ou quelques heures de travail à sa ferme en échange de ses services.

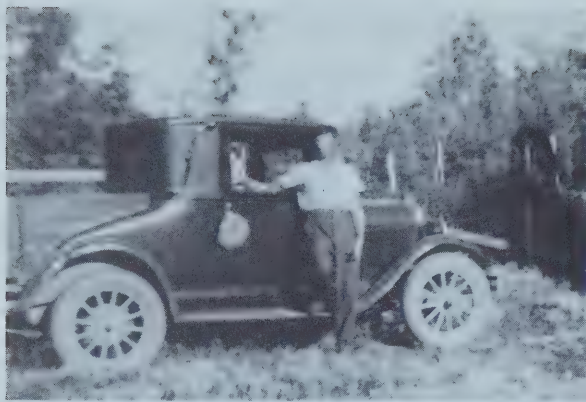
Pour se divertir de la monotonie des longs hivers dans les prairies, mon père s'acheta une maison à Slocan, en Colombie Britannique, et y amena sa famille en 1951. Par la suite, il faisait la navette, revenant ici pour faire les semences et à l'automne pour les récoltes. Il passait l'hiver en Colombie Britannique. Mon père était très actif dans la communauté, aidant à la construction du magasin Coopératif à Falher, la salle communautaire à Edgehill et à bien d'autres organismes.

Les enfants ayant grandis et étant partis de la maison familiale, mon père demeura à la ferme et prit sa retraite en 1975. Il vendit son "homestead" à son fils Frank. Il mourut sur la ferme en septembre 1979.

GRUBER, JOHN & HARSANYI, EVA

by John Gabriel Gruber

My father was born in Mor, Hungary in the fall of 1905 the third of four children born to my grandparents. My grandparents owned a vineyard outside of Mor. My Dad apprenticed and worked as a cooper, (barrel-maker), in the family business. Before the first world war the business was doing well. As the war dragged on and on, the business started to fail and my grandfather who had joined the army did not return from the war. After the war the economy of



John Gruber with his first car.

Europe was in a shambles. My Grandmother was quite attached to the vineyard but finally seeing that there was no future in it decided to sell everything. At this time Canada was encouraging immigrants to this country. The thought of a new start to life encouraged my grandmother and her family and many other Europeans to embark on the long journey to Canada. So in 1926 my father and his cousin left Hungary for Canada. They left Budapest by train to Paris, from there to London and then across the Atlantic Ocean on a passenger liner, the "Antonia", landing in Halifax N.S. After their first look at the new world they boarded a train for Winnipeg, Manitoba. As they moved westward from Halifax they were amazed with the size of the country. They reached Winnipeg in March and started looking for work. My dad signed up for work on a farm near Elkhorn, Manitoba. In the summer of 1927 the rest of the family came: his brother Jim Gruber, his sister Mary and their mother. The oldest brother stayed in Hungary to further his education. My dad's sister Mary, went to an English school for about 3 months. My uncle Jim Gruber worked on another farm until June 1928 when he moved to the Peace River country. He signed up for two homesteads, one for himself and another for my father. In the summer of 1928 my aunt Mary came to work in Falher as a seamstress. My dad and grandmother came to this area in the fall of 1928 and stopped in Falher to get some supplies before making the long trek to their homestead. They were not quite prepared for what they saw when they got to their homestead; even southern Manitoba was friendly compared to this. All they could see were trees, trees and more trees. Dad had no idea how to clear land or build a log house. He had to learn these things from other homesteaders. In their homeland the land had been cleared for hundreds of years and the houses were made of brick. My uncle took up blacksmithing on his

homestead; there wasn't much work at first but as more settlers arrived, business improved.

In the spring of 1929 they broke some land and seeded some with horses and an old seed drill, enough for a garden and a few acres of crop. In the summer they cleared more land, about 50 acres with horses and sulky plow. In the spring of 1930 they seeded again but about half-way through seeding it started to rain and it just wouldn't stop. That year the crop was a disaster.

In the winter of 1930-31 logs were prepared for my dad's first house which was built in 1932. By that time they had a garden, a barn for the livestock, a chicken coop, granaries, and an ice house. The ice house was an important building which served a two-fold purpose; it supplied water and it was a refrigerator of some sort for meats and other food-stuffs. Dad sold the remaining livestock in 1950 and bought his first rubber-wheeled tractor. In the early part of 1950's my dad lived in Slocan B.C. where he had bought a house for his mother, and he came back to work on the farm in the spring. In 1953 he started building his new house.



John Jr. & Eva & John Sr.

On December 6, 1957 my father married Eva Harsanyi in Orange, New Jersey, United States where she had been working in a Westinghouse factory. She had been originally from Czechoslovakia and had emigrated to the States after the Second World War. My parents had first met at a neighbour's farm where she had come to visit from New Jersey. My mother came from the mountainous region of Czechoslovakia where she enjoyed sports and gardening. One of her great passions is her flower garden, where she usually is for many hours every day.

I was born on November 15, 1959 the only child to my parents. I attended school in Guy and then in Donnelly where I graduated. I graduated from Fairview College in 1979 where I took an agricultural course. I am living on the family farm and continuing the farming business with my father who is still working on the farm.

John Gruber: n. 26-11-1905 m. 06-12-1957

Eva Harsanyi: n. 24-05-1924

CHILD:

1) John Gabriel: n. 15-11-1959

* * *

En 1926 mon père et son cousin quittèrent la Hongrie pour le Canada. Après un premier coup-d'oeil ils embarquèrent pour Winnipeg. C'était en mars et mon père s'engagea sur une ferme à Elkhorn, Manitoba. Durant l'été 1927 les autres membres de la famille vinrent aussi: son frère Jim, sa soeur Mary et leur mère. Jim signa pour deux "homestead" dans la région; un pour lui et un pour mon père, et ma tante Mary vint à Falher comme couturière.

Tout ce qu'ils pouvaient voir était des arbres et encore des arbres. Ils ne savaient pas abattre des arbres ni bâtir une maison en bois rond mais ils apprirent des autres colons. Mon père partit une boutique de forgeron. La première maison fut bâtie en 1932. A ce temps, ils avaient un jardin, une écurie, un poulailler, des graineries et une glacière. Cette dernière servait à procurer de l'eau et garder la viande et autres aliments au froid. Ma mère venait de la Tchécoslovaquie où elle jouissait des sports et du jardinage.

J'ai fréquenté l'école de Guy et celle de Donnelly. J'ai gradué du Collège de Fairview en 1979 où j'ai suivi un cours agricole.

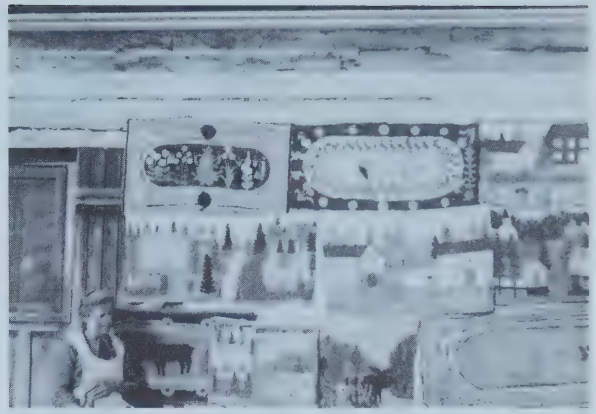
GRUBER, JULIANA

by John Gabriel Gruber

My grandmother was born in late 1877 in Hungary. She came with Dad to Falher in 1928 and lived on Dad's homestead for a few years. In the late 1930's she took up her own homestead. She was well known around this community for her cooking, baking and hooked rugs.

She moved to Slocan, B.C., in 1951 with Dad. My father lived with her during the winter, returning to the farm in spring for seeding, and travelling back to Slocan to stay with her for part of the summer.

Owing to illness, my grandmother came back to the farm in 1956, then moved to Fairview and stayed with her daughter, Mary, until she passed away in 1958.



Juliana Gruber with her rugs.

CHILDREN:

1- Frank: n. 1901

2- Jim: n. 1903

3- John: n. 1905

4- Mary: n. 1912

* * *

Ma grand-mère naquit en Hongrie en 1877. Elle arriva à Falher en 1928 avec mon père et vécut avec lui sur un "homestead" pendant quelques années. A la fin des années 30, elle prit son propre "homestead". Elle était reconnue pour sa bonne cuisine, ses pâtisseries et ses tapis crochétés.

En 1951, elle s'en alla vivre à Slocan, en Colombie Britannique, avec mon père. Il vivait avec elle durant les mois d'hiver, il revenait à la ferme au printemps pour faire les semailles, puis retournait passer l'été avec elle.

Ayant une mauvaise santé, grand-mère s'en revint vivre sur la ferme en 1956, puis chez sa fille Mary à Fairview où elle mourut en 1958.

HAMSON, LEO & CORNELL, RUTH

by Leo

Leo Hamson was born in Toronto on October 13, 1920. After graduating with an Honours Matriculation in 1939, he took employment at the Head Office of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. There, in the same department, he met his future wife Ruth Cornell, formerly of Kinuso, Alberta.

Having had lengthy experience as a sergeant-instructor in a Militia field artillery battery, he was granted a commission as a lieutenant. While posted to east coast harbour defences, he sent for his fiancée Ruth, and they were married in Saint John, N.B. on November 6, 1942. They managed

Ruth Hamson.



to be together despite many moves until Leo was posted overseas and Ruth returned to her family in Kinuso to await the birth of their first child, Karl.

Leo returned from Europe in August 1945. The atomic bomb ended the war with Japan the day their ship docked Halifax. After disembarkation leave in Kinuso with Ruth and their baby son, there followed several months' duties in Calgary, Westaskiwin, and P.O.W. camp for German officers.

It was while processing and discharging returning veterans that he met the group of officers who were planning the Little Smoky Farm Industries project and was invited to join them.

Ruth was born in Edmonton on March 20, 1920, the second of five children born to George and Sara Cornell, pioneers on the Swan River Valley south of Kinuso. Mr. Cornell came west from his old family home in Stanbridge East, Quebec, where his United Empire Loyalist ancestors built the Cornell Mill, now a museum. In 1939 she went to Toronto to seek employment at Canadian Bank of Commerce, and it was there that she met Leo.

Leo and Ruth Hamson arrived in the Guy district in March 1946 as members of the "Little Smoky Farm Industries" group of Second World War veterans. Their settlement was located on the N.E. quarter of 35-74-21 at the end of the road straight south of Donnelly and six miles south of Guy.

A long series of setbacks and disasters took a heavy toll of Little Smoky Farm Industries. Their numbers dwindled to three families after six years, then to two, then to one. The last hold-outs, the Bullens, departed in 1956, ten years after the venture started.

In December 1951, Leo and Ruth moved to High Prairie to find work, decided against returning, and lived there for the next 35 years. For

the first two years, Leo worked for C.A. Nantais, the Imperial Oil agent, then was invited by Dr. J.B.T. Wood to take over the management of the High Prairie Medical Clinic. He held this position for 21 years, and the next nine years were spent as a purchaser and warehouse manager for the High Prairie School Division, until his retirement in August 1984.

Ruth worked for 23 years at the Central Office of the High Prairie School Division as executive secretary to a series of Superintendents, retiring at the same time as Leo.

Their third child, Laura, was born in High Prairie on March 9, 1953. She now works as a lawyer in Alberta. Her husband, Allan Hoyano, is also a lawyer.

Daughter Marilyn, who was born Feb. 14, 1948 at "Little Smoky", has lived in the Yukon for many years with her two boys Matthew and Jonathan, and works as a free-lance writer and researcher.

Son Karl married and moved to New Zealand in 1965, where his son Paul and daughter Jody were born. Five years later he returned to Canada with his family, and now lives on Pender Island, B.C., has his own business as an industrial designer and consulting engineer.

Leo and Ruth were enthusiastic aviators, and over a period of some 19 years they were often observed flying their antique two-seater airplane over the Guy area. They marvelled at the incredible changes in the landscapes since their "Little Smoky" days.

Leo acquired title to his veteran's lease on W¹/₂-10-75-20 and finally sold it to Henry Brulotte in 1962, thus ending the Hamson' connections with the area. In the fall of 1986 they moved to the Laurier Heights district of Edmonton to enjoy their retirement amid cultural offerings of that city.

* * *

Ils sont arrivés à Guy en mars 1946 avec le groupe de vétérans "Little Smoky Farm Industries". Léo servait dans les Forces Armées.

En décembre 1951, ils laissent la ferme et déménagent à High Prairie. Léo fut gérant de la clinique médicale pour vingt-et-un ans et gérant d'entrepôt pour la High Prairie School Division pendant neuf ans. Ruth fut secrétaire à High Prairie School Division pendant 23 ans. Ils se retirent en 1984 et demeurent à Edmonton depuis 1986.

HARRIS, WILLIAM

by Françoise Dechief

Mr. Harris came here from the British Isles, a

well educated and well spoken man. He was one of the first in the area to own a tractor, a Wallis. He also owned a Model A car with a rumble seat. Although he was a man who kept to himself, the children of the neighborhood never failed to visit him when they had tickets or other small things for sale because he was a very good customer.

* * *

M. Harris est arrivé des Iles Britanniques. Il était très éloquent. Il fut l'un des premiers hommes de la région à posséder un tracteur—un Wallis. Il avait aussi une automobile "Model A" avec un siège à derrière. Bien qu'il vivait en solitude, les enfants des environs n'hésitaient pas à lui rendre visite quand ils avaient des billets ou autres articles à vendre. Il était un très bon client.

HAUSLER, JOHN & BARTSCH, HELEN

by the Hausler family

John (Hans) Häusler was born on the 13th of December, 1894, in Riedenheim, Germany. He was the sixth and youngest child of Joseph Häusler and Mari Anna Rügamer. In 1914 when he was twenty, he joined the army and went to war where he was wounded.

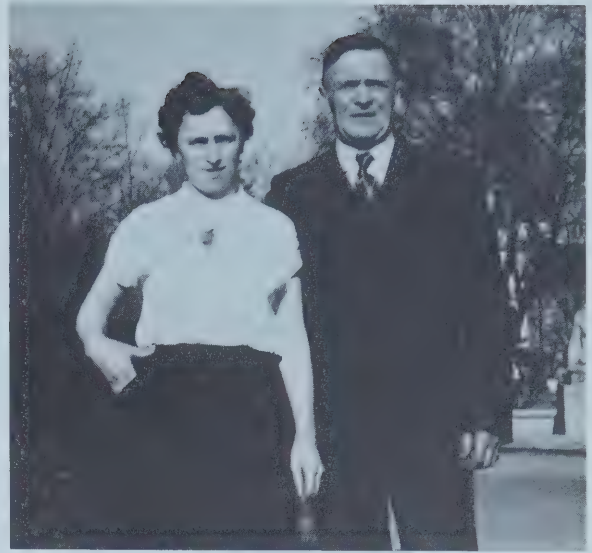
In the nineteen twenties, he decided to leave his homeland, where he saw no future, and sailed to Canada, land of freedom and opportunity. Upon his arrival in Canada, he made his way west, riding in boxcars and working at various locations: Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton, and in Saskatchewan.

Dad worked for Mr. Coon, whose farm is now the site of the International Airport outside of Edmonton. After working for Mr. Coon, he moved north to Guy. He leased his first homestead. Later he leased another.

In 1932, Dad bought a quarter section SE 28-76-20 W5 from Mr. Jean Simoneau. Alone, he opened up some of the land by hand. On this quarter Dad built his home.

In the fall of 1952, Dad returned to Germany to find himself a wife. He placed an advertisement in a local paper, to which he received twenty-five replies including one from Helen Bartsch, daughter of Joseph Bartsch and Pauline Berta Neumann. Although Helen and a friend had answered as a joke, her reply was one of the three Dad selected, requesting from each a rendez-vous.

The rendez-vous between Mom and Dad had to be kept a secret as some of her friends and relatives would have disapproved of such behavior. They met at her friend's apartment, then



John and Helen Hausler.

went out to dinner and dancing. They went out several times together. Dad would tell Mom about Canada, his farm, and of the life he lived. When Mom's mother and sister found out that Mom was planning to marry and leave for Canada, they tried to talk her out of it. But, Mom's love for Dad, and the anticipation she felt for a new adventure and new life were enough to convince her to go ahead with her plans. Mom and Dad were married in Bamberg on the 20th of March, 1953.

Shortly after the wedding, Dad came back to Canada by boat. Mother followed in May by air, as Dad thought the boat unfit for his bride. From Edmonton to Spirit River, Mom travelled again by air. She was met in Spirit River by her new husband and Mr. Regnier. Upon arriving in Donnelly, they went for supper at Regnier's. From there to the Hausler homestead, Mom and Dad rode a Cockshut tractor, Mom standing on the side. The trail was full of holes, was muddy, and there was water everywhere.

When Mom saw the house, all she said was, "That's the house?" She almost cried as she looked about her. It was a two room log house with a table, two kitchen chairs, a homemade living room chair, an old clothes closet, and an old bed. There were no curtains on the windows, but Mom soon rectified that, although Dad would say: "We make windows to let the light in, and you women have to cover them up!"

Coal-oil lamps were used for light, wood stoves for cooking and heating. Drinking water was obtained in the summer from the rain and in winter from the snow. Clothes were hand-

washed and hung to dry. Mom and Dad worked the land together while raising their five children, until Dad's death in 1972, when their oldest sons then took over.

Electricity was obtained in 1979 and indoor plumbing in 1981 when a new house was built.

Fred and Pete now run the family farm as well as their own land.

John (Hans) Hausler: n. 13-12-1894

m. 20-03-1953

d. 21-06-1972

Helene Bartsch: n. 16-02-1922

CHILDREN:

1- Fred: n. 22-11-1953

2- John: n. 12-05-1955

3- Sybil (Isabel): n. 13-08-1956

m. 20-11-1976

Gordon Kuncze: n. 18-11-1952

d. -09-1984

a) Jason: n. 30-03-1977

b) Kurtis: n. 15-01-1981

4- Peter: n. 23-01-1958

m. 24-05-1980

Doris Sirois: n. 02-04-1961

a) Sheldon: n. 14-02-1977

b) Dwayne: n. 10-11-1981

c) Ryan: n. 25-08-1985

5- Gordon: n. 31-03-1963

m. 04-05-1985

Hélène Dubrûle: n. 17-01-1966

* * *

Né en Allemagne en 1894, John (Hans) Hausler était le cadet d'une famille de six enfants. En 1914, à 20 ans il s'enrôla dans l'armée et fut blessé à la guerre. Dans les années 1920, il décida de quitter sa patrie où il ne voyait pas d'avenir, et s'embarqua pour le Canada.

Il fit route vers l'Ouest canadien voyageant dans des wagons de chemin de fer, tout en travaillant ici et là en route: Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton et en Saskatchewan aussi. Il travailla pour un M. Coon dont la ferme est maintenant là où se situe l'Aéroport International d'Edmonton. Ensuite il fit route vers Guy où il prit son premier "homestead". Un peu plus tard, il en prit un deuxième.

En 1932, notre père acheta un quart de section de M. Jean Simoneau. Seul il défricha le terrain à la main et y construisit sa demeure.

A l'automne 1952, notre père retourna en Allemagne pour se trouver une femme. Il plaça une annonce dans le journal. De là, il reçut vingt-cinq réponses, y compris celle de Helene Bartsch, fille de Joseph Bartsch et Pauline Bertha Newman. Bien qu'Helene et une amie

avaient répondu à l'annonce en farce, la réponse d'Helen fut l'une des trois que notre père a choisie. Ce qui fut qu'il voulut la rencontrer.

Peu après le mariage notre père revint au Canada en bateau. Notre mère arriva par avion en mai. Notre père avait pensé que le voyage en bateau n'était pas assez bien pour sa nouvelle épouse. De nouveau, maman prit l'avion d'Edmonton à Spirit River où son mari et M. Régnier la rencontrèrent. Arrivant à Donnelly ils furent accueillis par la famille Régnier qui leur servit un bas repas. Ensuite, pour se rendre au "homestead", nos parents partirent en tracteur "Cockshutt". La route boueuse était pleine de trous. Il y avait de l'eau partout.

Nos parents s'entraidaient aux travaux de la ferme tout en élevant cinq enfants. Après la mort de père en 1972, les fils aînés prirent la relève.

En 1981, une maison moderne fut construite munie du pouvoir électrique et de l'eau courante.

Fred et Pete s'occupent maintenant de la ferme familiale ainsi que de leurs propres terres.

HEBERT, ELPHEGE & LAFLAMME, SIMONNE

as told to Bud Caron

Elphege was born in Villeneuve, Alberta on April 24, 1912. He is the son of Rosaire and Marie Loiselle, the second of a family of fifteen, nine boys and six girls. He attended school in Villeneuve until he was thirteen years old, then attended the Jesuit College in Edmonton for two years. After these school years, he remained on the family farm until 1935 when he ventured north to the Peace River country and bought N.E. 10-76-21-W5 from Sam McBride and took up residence there.

In July 1942, he joined the Canadian Armed Forces and on December 31 of the same year, while on leave from basic training, he married Simone Laflamme of Falher.

Simone was born on August 26, 1917 to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Laflamme of Falher. She was the fifth child of a family of seven. She received her education in Falher and worked as a housekeeper and a restaurant cook until she wedded Elphege.

They then moved to Calgary where Elphege continued his advanced Army training. Because Elphege was an army cook, they were transferred many times from Red Deer to Nova Scotia during the next years.

In April 1946, as the war was over, they retur-

ned to their farm and purchased an additional quarter section of land N.E. 14-76-21-W5. They had three children.

Farming was Elphege's main occupation but he also worked at many seasonal jobs at lumber mills and bush camps. He was janitor at a school and at a nursing home in High Prairie.

He remained on the farm until December 1984, when he rented the farm and moved to the Legion Manor in McLennan to retire and he still lives there today.

Elphege Hebert: n. 24-04-1912

m. 31-12-1942

Simone Laflamme: n. 24-08-1917

CHILDREN:

1- Louise: n. 09-05-1945.

She is single and lives in Edmonton.

2- Paul: n. 09-07-1946

m. 20-06-1970

Annette Fagnan.

They have two children.

3- Berthe: n. 17-07-1949 m.

Marcel Gal.

They have three children.

* * *

Elphège est né à Villeneuve, AB., le 24 avril 1912, fils de Rosaire et de Marie Loïselle, le deuxième d'une famille de quinze enfants. Il fit ses études à Villeneuve jusqu'à l'âge de treize ans, puis au Collège des Jésuites à Edmonton pendant deux ans. Par la suite il demeura à la ferme familiale jusqu'en 1935, qu'il quitta pour la région de la Rivière La Paix où il acquit une terre de Sam McBride et y fit sa demeure.

En juillet 1942 il s'enrôla dans l'Armée Canadienne et le 31 décembre de la même année, alors qu'il était en permission, il épousa Simone Laflamme de Falber.

Fille de M. et Mme Arthur Laflamme de Falber, Simone naissait le 26 août 1917. Elle était la cinquième d'une famille de sept. Elle fit ses études à Falber, puis travailla dans des maisons privées et fut cuisinière dans un restaurant jusqu'à son mariage.

Ils partirent pour Calgary où Elphège continua son entraînement militaire. Etant cuisinier pour l'armée, Elphège et son épouse furent permutés à plusieurs reprises, de Red Deer jusqu'à Halifax, durant les quatre années suivantes.

En avril 1946, la guerre étant finie, ils revinrent sur leur ferme et achetèrent une autre section de terre. Ils eurent trois enfants.

Elphège était fermier d'abord, mais pendant les saisons moins occupées, il travailla dans les

moulins à scie et aux chantiers. Il fut aussi concierge dans une école et au Nursing Home à High Prairie. Il demeura sur sa ferme jusqu'en décembre 1984, alors qu'il loua sa terre et prit sa retraite à la résidence Legion Manor à McLennan où il vit encore aujourd'hui.

Simone travailla à la compagnie de téléphone, A.G.T. pour quelques années. Quand la centrale ferma les portes à Falber, Simone s'en alla à Edmonton où elle devint directrice, toujours pour A.G.T.

Elle a pris sa retraite et a fait de son passe-temps, la peinture, une affaire importante qui lui rapporte bien. Elle vit à Kelowna où le climat lui plaît et continue à peindre ses tableaux.

HEBERT, PROSPER & BROCHU, MADELEINE

par Gisèle Duguay

Prosper, fils de Rosaire Hébert et Marie Loïselle, a été élevé sur une ferme à Villeneuve, Alberta dans une famille de quatorze enfants. Il alla à la petite école jusqu'à la septième année ensuite il fit deux années d'études au collège des Jésuites à Edmonton.

Après avoir travaillé pour un fermier, il décide de venir s'installer au nord-ouest de Guy où deux de ses frères avaient déjà du terrain. En 1942 il prit le SW 16-76-21-W5 où il y avait soixante acres en culture. Le travail de la terre se faisait avec des chevaux. Il y avait déjà une maison à deux étages construite de troncs d'arbres équarris que son père avait bâtie lorsqu'il faisait chantier à Guy pendant l'hiver.

Le 18 août 1943 il épouse Madeleine Brochu fille de David Brochu et Alice Ruel de Girouxville. Madeleine était venue de St-Fabien, Cté Montmagny, P.Q. à Girouxville, Alberta, avec sa famille à l'âge de sept ans. Elle est allée à l'école de Girouxville quelques années ensuite elle a travaillé dans les familles, comme aide-cuisinière, à l'hôpital de McLennan et femme de chambre à l'hôtel de Falber.

En 1945, Prosper ajoute le terrain non défriché SE 15-76-21-W5 à sa ferme. Il allait au chantier l'hiver et continuait de défricher du terrain l'été. A ce temps, pendant l'hiver les chemins étaient passables avec des chevaux seulement. C'est ainsi que Denise vint au monde à la maison pendant une grande tempête de neige. Les enfants étaient pensionnaires au couvent de Guy et revenaient passer les fins de semaine à la maison jusqu'à l'année 1959 quand le service d'autobus a commencé.

Sur leur ferme ils gardaient des poules, des vaches et cochons qui fournissaient de la nourriture à la famille grandissante. Madeleine,



R.1 Michel, Claude, Donat, Cécile. R.2 Denise, Jacques, Madeleine, Prosper & Gisèle Hébert.

excellente jardinière, récoltait des légumes en abondance qu'elle mettait en conserve ainsi que des fruits tels que saskatoons, fraises et framboises.

En 1963 ils vendent leur ferme et recommandent une autre ferme mixte sur le terrain S 1/2 4-75-19 W5. Les enfants continuent leurs études aux écoles Langlois et G.P. Vanier de Donnelly.

Au printemps 1982 Prosper et Madeleine prennent leur retraite en vendant leur ferme. ils s'achètent une roulotte et passent un hiver en Arizona et les autres en Colombie-Britannique. Ils reviennent dans la région l'été car ils aiment faire du camping et de la pêche et passer du temps avec leurs enfants et leurs petits-enfants.

Prosper Hébert: n. 16-07-1917 m. 18-08-1943

Madeleine Brochu: n. 31-01-1922

ENFANTS:

1- Gisèle: n. 26-04-1945 m. 22-07-1967

Marcel Duguay: n. 18-07-1936 (voir Marcel Duguay)

2- Claude: n. 02-03-1948 m. 22-12-1973

Gisèle Lambert: n. 08-02-1952

a) Jean: n. 21-06-1974

b) Gérard: n. 29-03-1976

Claude et Gisèle demeurent à High Prairie et sont propriétaires de Carson Insurance Agencies Ltd.(1981) et Radio-Shack A.S.C.

3- Denise: n. 13-02-1949 m. 04-04-1975

Eduardo Sosa: n. 17-07-1951 (divorced)

a) Kevin: n. 05-09-1978

Denise demeure à Vancouver et travaille comme directrice de bureau à la compagnie Prosourc Management.

4- Michel: n. 01-03-1950 m. 01-12-1984

Gloria Robertson: n. 05-07-1956

a) Nadine: n. 01-12-1983

b) Michelle: n. 23-05-1985

Michel est propriétaire de Radio Shack A.S.C. Falher.

5- Jacques: n. 19-04-1951 m. 18-06-1977

Michelle Brodeur: n. 09-03-1956

a) Dominique: 13-06-1983

b) William: n. 18-01-1986

Jacques et Michelle demeurent à Spruce Grove, AB. Jacques est contrôleur à l'usine Blero-Engineering où l'on manufacture de l'équipement de détention.

6- Cécile: n. 30-03-1954

Elle reçut son diplôme en radio-diffusion de Mount Royal, Calgary. Elle a obtenu son B.A. en communication de l'université d'Ottawa en 1983. Elle demeure à Vancouver et elle fait du "freelance" pour les postes de radio et de télévision.

7- Donat: n. 19-03-1957 m. 10-04-1976

Pauline Dumas: n. 06-09-1956

a) Daniel: n. 16-12-1978

b) George: n. 02-01-1982

c) David: n. 30-07-1984

Donat et Pauline demeurent à Grande Prairie où Donat est coordinateur d'information pour les ordinateurs, pour le service et bien-être social de la région nord-ouest.

* * *

Prosper, son of Rosaire Hebert and Marie Loisel grew up on a farm in Villeneuve, Alberta. He was one of fourteen children. He attended the local school to grade seven, then was at the Jesuit College in Edmonton for two years.

After a stint at working for a farmer, he decided to come and settle in Guy where two of his brothers had already settled. In 1942 he took over a quarter section - sixty acres of which were already cultivated. The work was done with horses. There was already a two storey house made of squared-off logs which his father had built.

On August 18, 1943 he married Madeleine Brochu, the daughter of David Brochu and Alice Ruel of Girouxville. Madeleine had come with her family from St. Fabien, P.Q. to Girouxville when she was seven years old.

In 1945 Prosper acquired more land. He worked in lumber camps during the winter and cleared his land in the summer months. They raised their seven children on the farm and were most anxious that they acquire a good education. The children were boarders at the convent so as to attend school and would go home on weekends. In 1959 the school bus system was introduced in that part of the community to change that life style.

In the spring of 1982 Prosper and Madeleine sold their farm and retired. They bought a trailer and spent one winter in Arizona, then in British Columbia. They come back in the area in the summer months for camping and fishing and to enjoy the company of their children and grandchildren.

HEBERT, WALTER & LAGACE, ROSE

par Rose Lagacé-Hébert

Walter Hébert, fils de Rosaire et Marie Loïselle de St-Albert, Alberta, était venu s'installer à l'ouest de Guy sur une ferme SW 10-76-21-W5 qu'il avait achetée de Sam McBride. Il appartenait à la paroisse de Guy et venait aux soirées paroissiales où l'on organisait des parties de cartes, des bingos et même des pièces de théâtre. Il y avait toujours des musiciens pour jouer du violon et de la musique à bouche. C'est à une de ses soirées que Walter rencontra Rose Lagacé, fille de Joseph et Auréa Boucher, pionniers de la paroisse de Guy.

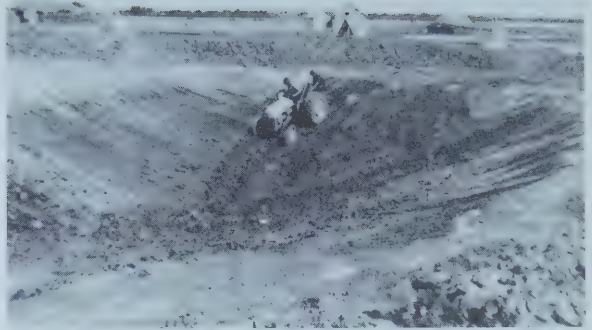


Mariage Walter et Rose Hébert. M. Hébert (père), Walter, Rose, Jos Lagacé, prêtre?

"Le jour de nos noces, le 17 janvier 1936, il faisait un froid de 40 degrés sous zéro. Je n'ai jamais eu si froid de toute ma vie. En plus la fournaise de l'église laissait échapper de la boucane; derrière mon voile je ressemblais à un apiculteur qui enfume ses abeilles. Vous pouvez croire que j'ai vécu tout cela. Après le voyage de noces à Edmonton, qui avait été de courte durée, car Walter devait retourner prendre soin de ses animaux, nous nous sommes installés dans la petite maison située sur le terrain."

Ce quart de terre était en face de Jos Gagnon et voisin de Jos Morin, propriétaire du magasin et du bureau de poste de Ballater.

En 1942, afin d'obtenir plus de revenus,



Walter Hébert qui creuse un étang, 1940.

Walter s'est mis à creuser des étangs avec un tracteur et une pelle hydraulique. Les fermiers auraient maintenant de l'eau chez eux plutôt que d'aller faire de la glace à la rivière.

Un soir de Noël, à une soirée chez M. Louis Dentinger de Falber, en conduisant son cheval ferré dans l'écurie, Walter se fait ruer et casser la jambe. Il ne sortit de l'hôpital qu'au mois de mars et a eu du mal très longtemps.

Les hivers des années 1944-45, Walter se rendait à Faust travailler dans les chantiers McRae où son beau-père Joseph Lagacé était contremaître. Tout le travail de chantier se faisait avec les chevaux.

Ayant subi une intervention chirurgicale au dos, Walter a dû laisser la terre et son travail ardu. Il vendit la terre, où nous avons vécu pendant dix ans, au Soldier Settlement Board. Plus tard cette terre fut achetée par Raymond Thibault.



R.1 Colette, Rose, Walter, Yvette. R.2 Guy, Margaret, Cheryl, Roger Hébert.

Pendant les années 1935-45 où Walter a demeuré à Guy, il a été à plusieurs reprises marguilliers, président du Cercle de l'A.C.F.A. et de la Caisse Populaire. Aussi il porta main-forte aux soirées paroissiales et aux corvées nécessaires à ce temps: couper, transporter et scier le bois de chauffage pour l'église et le couvent.

En 1945, la famille déménagea à Villeneuve où Walter devint agent d'élévateur pour la Compagnie Alberta Wheat Pool. Nous avons loué une grande maison confortable et avons élevé notre famille. De notre mariage, quatre enfants sont nés; deux garçons et deux filles. De plus nous avons parrainé une petite fille de 18 mois et une autre de deux ans.

Elles ont maintenant vingt-cinq et vingt-six ans. En 1965, Walter fut transféré à St-Albert où il continua de travailler comme agent d'élévateur pour la même compagnie. Il prit sa retraite en 1976 mais continua d'être agent d'assurance pour Co-operative Insurance jusqu'en 1978. Il est maintenant agent pour Academy Insurance.



Deux petits cousins Roger Hébert, Léona Lagacé.

Walter et Rose demeurent maintenant sur un terrain dans un appartement adjoignant la demeure de leur fille, Yvette. Avec le va et vient des petits enfants qui visitent, ils n'ont pas un moment d'ennui.

Walter Hébert: n. m. 27-01-1936

Rose Lagacé: n. 20-08-1915

ENFANTS:

1- Roger: n. 15-03-1937

2- Guy: n. 04-03-1948 m. 04-10-1969

Lorraine Nobert: n. 13-02-1948

Ils ont trois enfants: Marcel, Colin et Pierre.

3- Yvette: n. 29-11-1953 m. 03-06-1972

Guy Nobert: n. 18-10-1950

Ils ont quatre enfants: Andrée, Marcel, Corrine et Danielle.

4- Colette: n. 06-05-1958 m. 21-05-1977

John Koch: n. 02-03-1955

Ils ont trois enfants: Michel, Paul et Nicole.

5- Cheryl Baril: Parrainée, célibataire.

6- Margaret King: Parrainée, célibataire.

* * *

Walter Hébert came from St. Albert AB., to settle on a farm west of Guy which he had bought from Sam McBride.

He was a member of the Parish of Guy. They were married January 27, 1936. After the short honeymoon we settled in a small house on the farm. This quarter section was across from Jos Gagnon's and next to Jos Morin, storekeeper and post-master at Ballater.

After surgery on his back, Walter had to leave the farm. He sold the farm to the Soldier Settlement Board. It was bought by Raymond Thibault.

During the years 1935-45 while Walter lived at Guy he took part in many organizations.

In 1945, the family moved to Villeneuve where he took charge of the grain elevator for the Alberta Wheat Pool.

He rented a large comfortable house where they raised four children. Moreover they fostered two other little girls aged 18 months and two years.

In 1965, Walter was transferred to St. Albert, working there for the same company. There he retired in 1976, but continued to sell insurance.

HORVATH, GEORGE & GAGNE, ROSELINE

by Roseline Horvath

I, Rose Horvath (Roseline), am the daughter of Armand Gagné and Aurore Lafleur.

I left home at the age of seventeen to work in Falher. My first job was as a waitress at Roger's Steak House, and then at the Co-op Store.

This is when I met my husband George Horvath, son of Mary and Steve Horvath of Calgary. George was a foreman for J.A. Moulson Construction which at the time (1956-1957) had a contract to build a part of Highway #2 from the Little Smoky River to three miles north of Guy. As one of the foremen he had ample opportunity to come to town for supplies. Later that year I went to work in Calgary where we were married.

Our four children were born in Calgary. George, being the son of a Saskatchewan farmer, and with three sons of his own started thinking about farming. He liked the Peace Country and



Georges et Roseline Horvath. R.1 Suzanne Pitre, Aurore Gagné, Louise Bussier. R.2 Shelly, Rose, Kathy. R.3 David, Tony, George, Yves, Mark.

decided to apply for a homestead four miles east of Guy. After he got the approval on his homestead we thought about moving back to Guy to start farming.

We had a D4 Caterpillar tractor that George would use to open land. Normand, my brother, also had a homestead one mile away. So a deal was made Normand would help us open some land using our caterpillar and he would open some of his own with our machinery.

Fall of 1964: now the time to move to Guy had come. We wanted a place to buy not too far from town. We contacted Fernand Bisson and bought twenty acres from him. This twenty acres was part of the quarter section between Highway #2 and the town of Guy. A year later we bought another one hundred acres of the same quarter from Mrs. Medora Lechasseur. By this time my dad wanted to sell; my brothers were not interested in buying, so we bought my dad's half section S $\frac{1}{2}$ -06-76-21-W5M.

As the children grew, more land was bought and our boys are all involved in the family farm.

Our daughter Kathy is married to Yves Mercier, son of Gerard Mercier and Anna Gaboury. Yves and Kathy own and operate the Smoky River Septic Service from their home in Falher. George Horvath: n.28-09-1930 m.15-04-1958
Rose Gagné: n.06-10-1938



4 générations de Gagné. R.1 Kathy, Shelly Mercier. R.2 Aurore Gagné. R.3 Rose Horvath.

CHILDREN:

1. David: n.05-10-1958
2. Mark: n.09-11-1959
3. Kathy: n.15-12-1960
Yves Mercier: n.25-04-1958
a) Shelly: n.09-04-1977
4. Tony: n.15-04-1962

* * *

J'ai quitté la maison à dix-sept ans pour aller travailler à Falher. Mon premier emploi était celui de serveuse chez Roger's Steak House et ensuite au magasin Co-op.

C'est à ce temps que j'ai rencontré mon mari, George Horvath, alors qu'il était contre-maître pour J.A. Moulson Construction. De 1956-1957 il travaillait à bâtir une partie de la route #2 de Little Smoky River jusqu'à trois milles au nord de Guy. Comme un des contre-maîtres il avait le temps de venir chercher des approvisionnements au village. Plus tard cette année là, je suis allée travailler à Calgary. C'est là que nous nous sommes mariés.

Nos quatre enfants sont nés à Calgary. Comme George était le fils d'un fermier de la Saskatchewan et avec trois fils, il commença à penser à cultiver. Il aimait la Rivière-la-Paix et décida de faire application pour un "homestead" à quatre milles à l'est de Guy.

Nous avions un tracteur-chenille D4 que George se servait pour ouvrir du terrain. Normand, mon frère, avait aussi un "homestead" à un mille. Alors une entente a été prise: Normand nous aiderait à ouvrir du terrain en se servant de notre tracteur-chenille et il ouvrirait son terrain avec nos machines.

Automne 1964: c'était le temps de déménager à Guy. Nous voulions un endroit pas trop loin du village. Nous avons contacté Fernand Bisson et avons acheté vingt acres de lui. Un an plus tard, nous avons acheté un autre cent acres du même quart de Mme Médora Lechasseur. A ce temps là mon père voulait vendre; mes frères n'étant pas intéressés nous avons acheté la demi-section de mon père.

Pendant que nos enfants grandissaient, nous avons acheté plus de terrain et nos garçons sont tous impliqués dans la ferme familiale.

Notre fille, Kathy, est mariée à Yves Mercier. Ils ont le commerce Smoky Septic Service à Falher.

HUPP, KENNETH & GUILD, JULIET

by Betty Lindal (Teward)

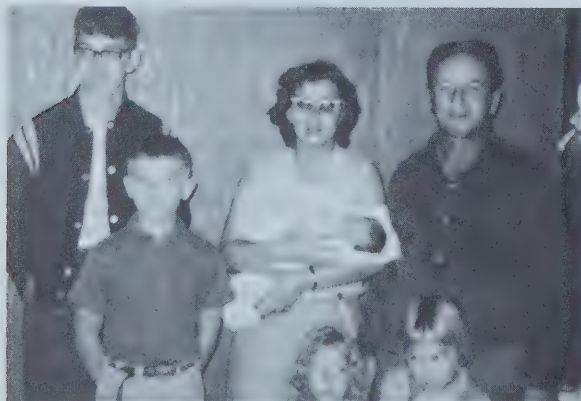
In 1946 Ken Hupp, a veteran of World War II, took a homestead N ½ 12-75-20 W5 through Veteran's Affairs.

The following spring, with the help of Mr. Guild and his son, he built a two room house and like many pioneers put in endless hours of hard work clearing, piling, and breaking in his new land.

He travelled on horseback as there were no roads at the time.

It was with great pride that in 1948 he introduced his new bride, Juliet Guild of High Prairie, to his neighbours.

They worked hard opening a few more acres each year to put into production.



Kenneth & Juliet Hupp Family. Stanley, Billy, Sally, Judy, Sherry.

Although work was never lacking, there were also for them times of real enjoyment. Juliet loved entertaining others with her singing. She also played the accordion and guitar when the neighbours gathered for house parties.

In 1966 they sold their farm to Jos and Anatole Turcotte and moved to Edmonton and later to Parksville on Vancouver Island.

Ken and Juliet had a lovely family; most of them attended school in Guy. Betty Lue is living in Osoyoos with her mother. Juliet, is now employed as a nurse's aid working in Oliver.

Stanley is married and lives in Saskatchewan. He's a forester and enjoys hunting and trapping.

Billy is married and has two children. He lives on Vancouver Island.

Jimmy is married and has two children. He lives in Osoyoos, B.C.

Sally is married and has two children. She lives in Vancouver.

* * *

En 1946 Ken Hupp, un vétérinaire de la deuxième guerre mondiale prenait un "homestead" N½-12-73-20-W5 par l'intermédiaire du département des anciens combattants.

Au printemps suivant aidé de M. Guild et de son fils il construisit une maison de deux pièces, et comme bien des pionniers il travailla de longues heures à défricher sa nouvelle terre. Il n'y avait pas de bonnes routes à ce temps-là et alors il voyageait à cheval.

En 1948, il était tout heureux de présenter sa nouvelle épouse, Juliet Guild à ses voisins.

D'année en année, ils travaillaient fort pour défricher quelques acres de plus. Le travail ne manquait pas; ils trouvaient tout de même du temps pour le loisir.

Juliet se plaisait à amuser les voisins en jouant de la guitare et en chantant en soirées intimes.

En 1966, ils vendaient leur ferme à Jos et Anatole Turcotte et partirent vivre à Edmonton, et de là à Parksville sur l'île de Vancouver.

Ken et Juliet ont eu une belle famille. La plupart de leurs enfants ont fait leurs études à Guy.

JANELLE, JEAN & BRULOTTE, JOSEPHINE

from the Brulotte History Book

Josephine, daughter of Frank and Amanda Noel was born in Flagstone, B.C., December 18, 1916. She married Jean Janelle, son of Antoine and Madeleine Rochez on April 14, 1940. They farmed in Guy and later moved to McLennan and

then to High Prairie. Jean passed away January 11, 1976. Josephine lives in High Prairie. They had two girls: Lorraine Joyce and Lucille Antoinette.

* * *

Le mariage de Joséphine et de Jean Janelle fut béni par l'Abbé Paul Gagnon. Au début de leur mariage le couple est allé vivre à Guy. Puis Jean prit l'agence des produits Paula et ils sont déménagés à McLennan et ensuite à High Prairie. Jean a travaillé avec la même compagnie d'assurance jusqu'à sa mort.

JASMIN, GERARD & DUSMENIL, ANGELINA

par Angéline et Gérard

Gérard Jasmin est né de Sébastien et de Suzanne Deschamps à Le Trait, Diocèse de Rouen, Dept. Seine.

Il arriva au Canada en 1927 à l'âge de trois ans avec ses parents et son frère François. Le seul souvenir de sa traversée fut d'avoir eu en cadeau une jolie balle rouge. Une fois sur le bateau, n'a-t-il pas aussitôt la balle dans les mains que le gamin la lance à la mer. Il la regarde aller longtemps sur les grosses vagues. Parti le cadeau de Tante Marie-Louise. Il passe un an à Kennedy avec ses parents pour ensuite venir demeurer à Guy, AB.

Ses premières années d'école furent chez Mme Louis Brulotte à deux milles et demi de chez lui. Matin et soir les gamins marchent

(Gérard et François) durant les temps doux de l'été et de l'automne. Le sentier suivi est aujourd'hui le chemin de M. Henri Percheron. Plus tard le district scolaire de Jason (Jasmin-Caron) est formé. Gérard reprend l'école cette fois chez Mme Mélonia Caron dans la résidence de M. Fred Caron.

En 1937-38 Gérard étudie au Collège des Jésuites à Edmonton. A cause des années de disette Gérard est retiré du Collège et revient à la maison. De là il continue son école à Edgehill jusqu'à la huitième année. Son passe-temps était de travailler à la ferme après l'école et sur les fins de semaine. A seize ans il se joint aux équipes de battage durant les moissons.

L'armée Canadienne l'appelle à l'âge de 18 ans. Etant l'aîné de la famille, son père le réclame pour aider à la ferme.

Il se souvient d'avoir ouvert du terrain à la main et fait du cassage avec les chevaux. En 1946 on achète un tracteur sur pneus. Ses hivers se passent dans les chantiers pour faire des bil-



R.1 Lorraine, Angelina, Gérard. R.2 Jules, Marcel, Laurent, Claude et Yvon Jasmin.



Angelina, Gérard Jasmin.

lots afin de bâtir une maison pour ses parents, un garage et des graineries.

En 1950 Gérard achète la demie-section SE 29-75-21 et en 1952 il achète une moissonneuse à remorque.

En 1950 il rencontre une jolie demoiselle, Angelina Dumesnil, et en juillet 1953 il s'est marié.

ANGELINA DUMESNIL-JASMIN né le 6 septembre 1932 dans la maison de Louis Edouard Dumesnil. Mon père Louis Ignace Dumesnil et ma mère Angèle Provençal (de Ponteix, Sask.) vivaient chez mon grand-père. Ma grand-mère Joséphine Monette-Dumesnil assistait le Dr Beaudoin de Ponteix à ma naissance, l'aînée de la famille.

Mon père était fermier et opérateur de machines de construction ou de l'entretien des chemins. Il fut employé de la municipalité de Neuville en Saskatchewan et de la M.D. #130 de Smoky River. Ma mère était musicienne et chanteuse.

Mon enfance fut entourée de trois tantes et deux oncles. Gabrielle, Ludivine et Adrienne. Tante Ludivine (Perreault aujourd'hui) m'apprit à tenir maison et de grand-maman j'appris à tricoter, broder, crocheter et coudre.

Tante me servit de mère, je n'oublierai jamais sa patience et son amour.

Sur la ferme j'apprend et aide mon grand-père à entretenir les arbres fruitiers et le jardin et aussi à traire les vaches. A cheval, je conduis pour grand-père la charrue qui laboure autour de la cour. A partir de sept ans et jusqu'à l'âge de 10 ans, je marche un mille et quart, soir et matin, pour aller à l'école. Pour un an je fréquente l'école publique de Ponteix et je reviens à la petite école de campagne du Lac Pelletier. Les Soeurs Oblates durent quitté la paroisse et ce sont des professeurs laïcs qui les remplacent. Nous avions une heure de français par jour et défense de parler français durant la récréation. Cela ne nous empêchait pas d'avoir de hautes notes dans les concours de français de l'A.C.F.C. Les minutes étaient partagées entre la grammaire, la dictée, la composition et la lecture.

A quinze ans je quittais l'école pour avoir soin de la maison. Mes loisirs étaient le chant, l'orgue et la guitare. Mon père était violoniste et souvent durant la veillée nous jouions de la musique.

En 1950 nous venions nous installer à McLennan. Je passe quelque temps à la ferme de l'oncle Théodore Ouellette et tante Blanche qui nous avaient accueilli de si grand coeur. Au printemps 1951 je me rends à Guy aider ma tante Mme Ludivine Perreault. C'est à ce temps

que je fis la connaissance d'un grand blond, Gérard Jasmin.

En 1953 le Père Marsan bénissait notre mariage dans la Cathédrale St-Jean Baptiste de McLennan. Ensuite nous nous installions à Guy dans la petite maison que mon mari avait construit avec l'aide d'un charpentier, M. Gérard Duguay. Ce n'était pas fini mais tout de même confortable et nous en étions très heureux. Un poêle à bois chauffait toutes les pièces. L'eau était transportée au seau à la maison et aux animaux. Les systèmes d'égout n'existaient pas. Malgré, tout nous étions très heureux. Les enfants grandissaient et les temps durs des années 50 et 60 nous mettent au ralenti. Le travail à l'extérieur étant très rare on a du se contenter de peu. Mon mari travaille durant les mois d'été 1958 à la construction du Gymnase de Guy. Durant l'hiver il travaille avec une équipe pour faire du bois de chauffage pour les campeurs.

En 1963 on achète la demi N.O. 20-75-21 W4 de M. Stanley Olshanowski.

En 1966 nous déménagions un quart de mille plus loin sur le NW 26-75-21-W5. Ici il a fallut tout recommencer en neuf. Les enfants sont à l'école Langlois et après leurs journées d'école ils aident leur père à faire le train. Sans leur aide nous n'aurions pu tenir le coup. Marcel, Claude et Jules sont en grande partie responsables de ce que nous avons aujourd'hui. Les garçons étudient à l'école Langlois jusqu'à la neuvième année et ensuite finissent leurs études à l'Ecole G.P. Vanier de Donnelly. Dans le courant des années 70 Gérard devient secrétaire des commissaires d'école et moi-même secrétaire de la maternelle à Guy. Plus tard j'occupe la place de secrétaire de l'Ecole Langlois jusqu'en 1979. Marcel est concierge de l'Ecole et Jules conduit un autobus scolaire de la division pour les deux écoles Langlois et Vanier. Laurent, Lorraine et Yvon ont fini leurs études à Donnelly. Lorraine est fermière, Laurent travaille pour les fermiers de Guy. Yvon est apprenti chez Tremblay Upholstery. Marcel est fermier ainsi que Claude. Ils travaillent aux abeilles pour M. Paradis. Aussi ils aident leur père à la ferme. La famille fait partie du comité liturgique de Guy, liturgie de la Parole et de la musique et du comité de finance.

Gérard Jasmin: n. 09-01-1924 m. 07-07-1953

Angelina Dumesnil: n. 06-09-1932

ENFANTS:

1- Marcel: n. 02-11-1954 m. 11-07-87

Marjolaine Lavoie

2- Claude: n. 15-01-1957

3- Jules: n. 18-03-1958 m.

Christina Wynne Sills: n. 14-07-1963

Ils ont deux enfants: Jean-Sébastien et Mathieu.

4- *Lorraine: n. 23-07-1964 m. 13-04-1985*

François Boulet. Ils ont deux enfants, Geneviève et Marc.

5- *Laurent: n. 31-10-1966*

6- *Yvon: n. 23-01-1968*

* * *

In 1927 Gérard came to Canada from France with his parents. The family having settled in an area where no school existed Gérard walked 2 1/2 miles to Mrs. Louis Brulotte's home to receive his first schooling. Later he went to school in Mrs. Fred Caron's home, where Mrs. M. Caron taught her own children as well as neighbors' youngsters. After attending the Jesuit College in Edmonton, Gérard returned home to help his father on the farm and resumed his schooling at Edgemoor School. In 1950 Gérard bought SE 1/2-29-75-21-W5.

He married Angelina Dumesmil who was born in Ponteix, Saskatchewan. She grew up surrounded by three loving aunts and two doting uncles who taught her many skills.

Angelina's family moved to McInnery in 1950. Soon thereafter she worked for her uncle Theodore Ouellette and aunt Blanche where she met Gérard. They made their home in Guy in the little house built earlier by Gérard and Mr. Duguay. In 1963 more land was bought. The six children attended school in Guy and in Donnelly. The whole family is involved in parish work mostly with musical contribution, organ playing by Mrs. Jasmin and in the church choir by the rest of the family.

JASMIN, SEBASTIEN & DESCHAMPS, SUZANNE

par Gérard & Angelina

Sébastien est le fils aîné de François Jasmin et Amélie Chauvancie des Ardennes en France. Ces deux derniers vinrent au Canada pour s'établir en 1890, dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest, aujourd'hui la province de la Saskatchewan dans le petit village de Broadview. Leurs quatre enfants Marie, Adèle, Sébastien et Albert ainsi que leurs parents demeuraient sur une ferme. François était journalier et dans ses temps libres prenait soin des animaux de la ferme. Les enfants grandirent dans un centre anglais. Ils reçurent leur éducation en anglais et parlaient la langue couramment. Grand-père François partit de la France à cause des



Sébastien & Suzanne Jasmin.

salaire de misère payés par les Seigneurs des Seigneuries à leurs employés. Il voulait devenir propriétaire de ses biens et vint réaliser ses rêves au Canada.

C'est à Broadview que grandit Sébastien. En 1916, à l'âge de vingt sept ans il se joint au 27ième bataillon de la Cavalerie Canadienne d'outre Mer. Blessé au combat il fit sa convalescence dans un hôpital de France. C'est à ce moment qu'il fit la connaissance de Mlle Suzanne Deschamps de St-Pol sur mer, France. Après quelques mois de fréquentations les deux amoureux décident de venir s'épouser à Kennedy, Saskatchewan. En 1921 ils prennent le bateau pour le Canada.

En 1922 Marguerite est née et meurt à l'âge de quatre mois à Montmagny, Québec où Suzanne et Sébastien étaient employés. Sébastien travaille dans les vergers de M. Hamelin qui est propriétaire d'un hôtel. Suzanne était femme de chambre.

Mme Zéphirin Dupuis (Germaine Deschamps) leur avait fait avoir cet emploi. Elle avait précédé sa soeur de plusieurs mois au Canada.

Suzanne Deschamps fille de Victor Deschamps et de Marie-Louise Vandrome vivait près de la mer. M. Deschamps était charpentier dans les chantiers navals de St-Pol sur Mer près de Dunkerque. Suzanne aidait sa soeur Charlotte qui tenait une épicerie. Elle aidait au jardin de la ferme des Bernaert aussi car Charles et Charlotte faisait partie de l'une des plus grosses fermes de France.

Suzanne voulait voir d'autres horizons. Rien d'étonnant qu'après son court séjour au

Canada et suivant la mort de son premier enfant, elle et son mari reprennent le bateau pour retourner en France auprès de sa famille, les Deschamps. Pendant quelques années Sébastien travaille dans les chantiers navals où se trouve déjà employé son beau-père M. Deschamps. Deux garçons sont nés durant ce temps, Gérard et François. En 1927 la famille reprend le bateau pour revenir au Canada. Sébastien et Suzanne, fatigués de travailler comme journaliers, veulent devenir propriétaires permanents d'une ferme.

De nouveau revenu à Kennedy chez son père François, Sébastien entend parler de "homestead" en Alberta dans la région de Rivière La Paix. En 1928 la famille arrive à Guy. Sébastien prit la demie-section SW 35-75-21-W5. M. Georges Vowden, un voisin qui les voit sans logis et sans autres commodités leur offre sa maison pour passer l'hiver, soi-disant que les enfants auraient trop froid dans une grainerie. Il s'y installe lui-même jusqu'au printemps. Avec le temps, Sébastien bâtit sa maison sur sa demie-section. La bâtisse est faite de bois rond avec une toiture en tourbe. Les murs de dehors sont recouverts d'un genre de plâtre composé de boue et de paille pour mieux isoler la maison.

Les premiers colons, les maringouins, sont toujours présent et n'entendent pas se faire chasser de si tôt. Le seul moyen de dormir était de faire de la fumée en dedans et en dehors. Sans eau potable autre que celle des marais, Suzanne lave son linge avec de la cendre de bois, le seul savon. "C'était pour enlever la poussière et non pas pour le blanchir" nous disait cette bonne Suzanne. Plus tard Sébastien creusa un puits. L'eau n'est pas bonne à boire pour les humains mais seulement pour les animaux. L'eau devenue basse on creuse un étang pas très loin de la maison, avec un cheval et une soucoupe à bras.

Malgré la misère, les Jasmin restent sur leur terre. Que de nombreux repas à la soupe au lait. Les parents quelques fois leur envoyaient un peu de nécessaire pour vivre. L'idée de retourner en France leur est venue parfois mais Sébastien disait toujours que ce sera mieux l'an prochain. Le dicton est de vieille date n'est-ce pas?

En 1930 Marie est née et deux ans plus tard en 1932 Thérèse est née. Toutes les deux à la maison avec l'aide d'une sage-femme, Mme Rickard. La voisine Mme Lily Dupuis, venait faire le ménage pendant quelques jours. Les deux femmes s'entraidaient ainsi durant la naissance des enfants. Les Dr Côté et Hardy visitaient les foyers à la demande des gens. Pas question d'hôpital.

L'achat de deux vaches et un taureau fut une



Marie, Thérèse, Gérard, François.

richesse. Le troupeau augmente à vingt têtes avec le temps. Le prix d'une vache est d'environ sept dollars. Le prix du grain est à huit et dix sous du boisseau. Sébastien échange du grain pour d'autres produits, échange des heures de travail pour le service ou l'emploi des machines. Les moissons sont faites en corvées.

Les chemins n'existaient pas. Pour se rendre à Falher il fallait passer par les bois et ravins et suivre les "trails" comme disait les pionniers. La messe se disait dans les foyers. Les loisirs étaient de visiter les voisins, et de chanter ensemble. Sébastien était très bon violoniste. Durant ses jeunes années il faisait partie d'un groupe de musicien de son village en Saskatchewan et jouait pour les soirées de danses carrées. Plus tard ce fut pour amuser les enfants chez lui. La chasse aussi était un de ses passe-temps favori. Suzanne tricotait à la main les gilets, les bas, les mitaines et les tuques, et cousait les vêtements. L'été, elle semait de grands jardins. Pour embellir la cour, elle avait planté des arbres fruitiers. A sa grande surprise, ces arbres produisirent beaucoup. On y cueillait pommes, groseilles et framboises qui servaient à faire de bonnes confitures.

En 1946 une nouvelle maison est bâtie au grand bonheur de Suzanne. Les garçons avec l'aide d'un charpentier, M. Gérard Duguay, finissent la maison pour l'hiver.

En 1969 Sébastien se retire au foyer Notre Dame du Lac de McLennan. Pendant quelques années il s'occupe à faire du jardinage l'été. Il y passe dix ans pour enfin quitter ce monde en 1975 à l'âge de 85 ans.

Suzanne est entrée au foyer Youville dû à sa mauvaise santé à l'âge de 71 ans, elle y est demeurée jusqu'à l'âge de 86 ans. Elle est décédée le 5 janvier 1980.

THERESE-GERALDINE-AUGUSTINE JASMIN

Thérèse est née dans la maison paternelle à Guy où elle grandit. Son esprit de gaieté faisait le bonheur de tous à la maison. Le Seigneur l'avait déjà choisie pour être la sienne. Thérèse fit ses études à Falher avec les religieuses de Ste-Croix et professeurs laïcs. Toute jeune elle était pensionnaire chez Mme Martel de Falher. Ensuite ses parents la place au couvent, d'abord comme grande pensionnaire et plus tard, pensionnaire à la semaine. Elle termine ses études en 1950 et fait son entrée à l'université de l'Alberta. Après un an d'étude universitaire, elle revient enseigner dans la région de Falher. Le 14 février 1953, elle entre chez les Soeurs de Ste-Croix. Elle choisit le nom de Soeur Suzanne de la Trinité. Son noviciat terminé, elle revient enseigner en Alberta. Après plusieurs années d'enseignement et de dévouement parmi les jeunes Thérèse se retire de l'enseignement et se dévoue à l'Education Libératrice. Elle réside actuellement à Winnipeg au Manitoba.

FRANCOIS-RENE JASMIN

Arrivé au Canada, à Kennedy, Saskatchewan en 1927. Il est venu demeurer sur une ferme avec ses parents en 1928 à Guy à l'âge de deux ans. A l'âge de sept ans François et son frère Gérard, marchaient à l'école durant les temps doux de l'été et de l'automne chez Mme Louis Brulotte. Quand le district de Jason fut formé (Jasmin-Caron) François continua son école avec Mme Mélonia Caron comme professeur, enseignant dans sa maison privée. De 1936 à 1939 François étudie au Collège des Jésuites à Edmonton. En septembre 1940, ses études se poursuivent à Falher. Il entreprend la neuvième année à Edmonton en 1941, mais abandonne ses études pour revenir sur la ferme. Durant ses temps libres il se dévoue à quelques activités régionales, entre autre, secrétaire de Guy REA 1951-1952, conseiller de l'école Langlois et mar-guillier.

Ses loisirs étaient les jeux de balles et le hockey. François aimait aussi la danse.

Les hivers 1943 à 1949 François travaille aux chantiers de M. Ernest Brulotte, David et Laurent Brassard ainsi que Raoul Lambert. François et son frère Gérard faisaient des billots aussi pour bâtir une nouvelle maison ainsi qu'un garage et des graineries pour la ferme. En 1949 François fit application pour la demiesection S 1/2 14-74-21-W5th. Il ouvre son terrain tout en aidant à la ferme paternelle. En 1971, il est hospitalisé. Quand il est assez bien, il aide au "Alberta Forest Service" et au travail de con-

cierge. Après une dernière intervention au coeur, François se remet dans un centre de réhabilitation à Everglades Lodge à Stony Plain.

Sébastien Jasmin: n. 14-04-1889 à Sedan, Ardennes France, m. 23-11-1921 d. 14-01-1975

Suzanne Deschamps: n. 08-09-1894 à St-Paul sur Mer, au nord de la France d. 03-01-1980

ENFANTS:

1- Marguerite: n. 20-11-1922 d. 02-02-1923

2- Gérard: n. 09-01-1924 à Le Trait, Diocèse de Rouen Dep. Seine France m. 07-07-1953
Angéline Dumesnil: n. 06-09-1932

3- François: n. 17-11-1926 Paroisse de Blainville, Calvados, France

4- Marie: n. 01-05-1930 m. 07-07-1952

Charles Gagnon. Ils ont trois enfants: Denis, Thérèse et Murielle

5- Thérèse: n. 21-12-1932

* * *

Sebastien's parents and four children had come from France to the North West Territories of Canada in 1890, and had settled on a farm in Broadview, which is now Saskatchewan.

Sebastien attended English schools while growing up in Saskatchewan and from there enrolled in the 27th Battalion of the Canadian Overseas Cavalry. He was wounded in France and while he was hospitalized he met Suzanne Deschamps who was doing volunteer work at the hospital. After a short courtship the young couple travelled to Kennedy, Saskatchewan, to be married. They then moved to Montmagny, P.Q., where their first child was born. After the death of their four month old infant, Sebastien and Suzanne returned to France to live close to her family. Sebastien worked at the Naval docks with his father-in-law.

It was at this time that Gérard and François were born.

In 1927 desirous of owning their own land the young couple returned Sebastien's parents still resided. While there they heard homesteads were available for \$10.00 each in the Peace River region of Northern Alberta. So in 1928 they set out again for this new area. They filed on SW35-75-21-W5 and a kind neighbor, Mr. George Vowden, let the family reside in his warm house for the winter. The following spring Sebastien set to work building his own log house. Times were difficult but the Jasmin's held on and eventually by 1946 a new house was erected. Land was opened and seeded and roads and better farm machinery became available.

In 1969 Sebastien retired to Notre Dame du

Lac Nursing Home in McLennan where he died in 1975. Suzanne spent her last years at Foyer Youville in St. Albert. She passed away at 86 years.

JOHNSON, EMILE & RICHARD, MARIE ANNA

par Eva Johnson

Emile, fils de Narcisse Johnson et de Mary Bernardin dit Soulière, est né à St-Jacques d'Achigan, cté Montcalm. Aussi de St-Jacques, Marie Anna était la fille d'Urgèle Richard et d'Adélaïde Vézina. Leurs épousailles ont eu lieu dans l'église de Ste-Marie Salomé. C'est dans ce même village que les douze enfants d'Emile et de Marie Anna sont nés. En 1914, les parents ont connu la dure peine de voir mourir Anita, et en 1918, c'est Lucienne qui leur fut enlevée. Il va sans dire que ce fut de très lourdes épreuves.



Première maison en log d'Emile Johnson. Emile scie du bois et Guy avec son chien.

En mars 1922, après de mûres réflexions, on décide de s'aventurer dans l'Ouest. Cette décision a été précipitée en partie par des informations au sujet de l'Ouest Canadien offertes par l'Abbé Lemieux de Willow Bunch, Sask., lors d'une visite à Ste-Marie. Un ami de famille, M. Lacasse était déjà à Gravelbourg, Sask. C'est donc dans cette région à Ferland qu'Emile et Lucien viennent s'établir. La famille arrive un mois plus tard. Imaginez les sentiments de cette famille devant la réalité de quitter tout ce qui leur était familier et cher; la ferme, les parents et les amis. Cela a dû prendre beaucoup de courage et de foi en la Divine Providence. Emile est à la gare pour les accueillir. Arrivée à la destination, Anna est bien déçue à la vue de sa nouvelle demeure. C'est bien différent de ce qu'elle a laissé mais elle relève les épaules et seconde son mari.

La première récolte est assez bonne mais l'année suivante tout est détruit par la grêle.

Ensuite, c'est la sécheresse qui accable le cultivateur. Raoul, enseignant, travaille à une dizaine de milles de Ferland. En 1926, il retourne à Ste-Marie où il épouse Laurette Raymond. Raoul revient à Ferland avec son épouse et il continue son enseignement à Coppen, Sask. En 1928, c'est au tour d'Hervé de se marier. La sécheresse continue toujours et il est question d'aller ailleurs. On parle beaucoup de la région de la Rivière La Paix. Emile, Raoul et Lucien s'y rendent et en sont émerveillés. A perte de vue c'est une plaine de belle terre noire et riche. Alors en 1930, on décide d'aller s'établir dans cette région. Toute la famille, sauf trois membres s'y rend. (Raoul retourne à Montréal où il enseigne jusqu'à sa mort en 1936.) Clémentine fait son entrée au noviciat chez les Filles de la Croix et part pour la France. Quand à Hervé, ce n'est qu'en 1931 qu'il se rend en Alberta avec sa jeune famille. Pour ce qui est des autres, Joseph et Jean-Marie assument la responsabilité de louer et de charger un fourgon (wagon) d'animaux, de machines aratoires ainsi que du ménage. Les autres membres de la famille prennent le train et arrivent à Donnelly à la fin novembre. On doit tout de suite louer une maison pour y passer l'hiver. Emile et trois de ces fils prennent un "homestead". Celui d'Emile se situe à deux milles et demi au nord de Guy NE 12-76-21-5th. Le père de famille ayant déjà cinquante-sept ans, ce sont ses fils qui déboisent et qui défrichent le terrain. Ensuite, on coupe le bois pour en construire la maison ainsi que les autres bâtiments de la ferme.

Comme disait Joseph, ça prenait beaucoup d'effort (d'acharnement) et de temps mais en ce temps-là on avait plus de temps que d'argent. Entre-temps, on loue la terre chez Henri Olivier au nord de Falher. Les gars travaillent chez d'autres fermiers pendant les mois d'été afin de répondre aux besoins financiers. Cependant, les salaires ne sont pas gros, dix-huit à vingt-trois



R.1 Gérard, Henri, Joseph, Guy. R.2 Hervé, Rita, Emile, Marie Anna, Lucien, Jean-Marie.

dollars par mois. Parfois on travaille pour paiement en nature.

C'est au printemps de 1932 que la famille s'établit à Guy dans une bonne maison en bois rond à deux étages. Mémère Johnson disait que c'était très confortable. Elle cultivait un jardin avec toutes sortes de légumes et même des fraises et des framboises. A cette époque, on faisait beaucoup de conserves; fruits et légumes, viandes et même des fèves au lard. Comme ça on n'était jamais pris au dépourvu si quelqu'un survenait à l'improviste. Les femmes faisaient le beurre et cuisaient le pain. En plus, avec la viande des animaux, la table était toujours bien garnie.

Sur un autre plan, Jos et Jean-Marie s'aperçoivent vite que la pratique de louer et de travailler les terres d'autrui n'est pas une entreprise très lucrative ni avantageuse.

Ils décident donc de défricher leurs propres terrains. En 1936, Jos se construit un "shack" en bois rond, une glacière et une étable chez lui.



Récolte avec moissonneuse-lieuse.

Lors de l'arrivée de la famille Johnson à Guy, l'église était en voie de construction. On ne se fait pas prier pour aider. En plus Emile, excellent chantré, qui avait toujours chanté à l'église en Saskatchewan continue ici en tant que maître chantré. Tous ses fils font eux aussi partie du chœur de chant. Avec le départ de l'Abbé Mallet en 1934, la paroisse de Guy est desservie par le curé de Falher. Comme on est plusieurs chez les Johnson, on va souvent quérir et reconduire le prêtre qui dira la messe du dimanche. En 1935 Messieurs Aurèle Lambert, Jos Bourgeois et Emile Johnson font les démarches nécessaires auprès de Mgr Guy pour obtenir un prêtre résident. Après plusieurs rencontres à Falher, à Donnelly et à McLennan, ils réussissent. M. l'Abbé Camille St-Pierre est nommé curé de Guy le 24 mars 1935.

En 1936, c'est au tour de Lucien de convoler en juste noces. Ensuite, en décembre 1940, on voit Rita partir de la maison paternelle pour

devenir l'épouse de Roland Bastien. Emile et Marie Anna se trouvant un peu trop vieux pour rester seuls avec toutes les responsabilités de la ferme déménagent chez Jean-Marie qui s'était construit une bonne maison un peu plus au sud. Il accueille ses parents et ses frères. Cette maison est bientôt reconnue comme la maison paternelle.

C'est le temps de la guerre. Henri est déjà parti au printemps 1942 et en décembre de cette même année, Joseph part à son tour. Jean-Marie est exempt car quelqu'un doit rester pour cultiver la terre. Gérard revient à la maison aider. Guy n'a pas la santé pour entrer dans l'armée. Enfin la guerre se termine et la vie continue. On défriche toujours du terrain chez l'un ou l'autre des frères. A présent on utilise les "bulldozers" plutôt que la hache. Evidemment ça va beaucoup plus vite.



Anna, Sr. Clémentine, leur fille et Emile.

En 1946, Pépère et Mémère font un voyage de deux mois dans leur paroisse natale. C'est à l'occasion des noces d'or de la soeur d'Emile, Ernestine et Henri Gaudet. Le 28 août 1949, c'est le tout d'Emile et de Marie Anna de fêter leurs noces d'or au sein de leur famille et de leurs amis. Parmi les invités, plusieurs parents sont venus de très loin, les frères d'Emile, Apollinaire et Rosario, neveux et nièces du Dakota et de Ste-Marie Salomé, P.Q. L'heureux couple, Emile et Marie Anna vivront encore dix ans en paix. Ils moururent tous deux en 1959. Par coïncidence, Marie Anna est née un jour de Pâques et est décédée un jour de Pâques. Ils ont toujours été reconnus pour leur grande hospitalité dans une maison où on chantait toujours. Ils ont laissé

un bien bel exemple à leur famille. C'était à la fois de grands croyants et de bons vivants.

Emile Johnson: n.06-02-1873 m.28-08-1899 d.23-12-1959

Marie Anna Richard: n.09-04-1878 d.29-03-1959

ENFANTS:

- 1- *Raoul: n. 08-06-1900 m. 28-07-1926 d. 03-03-1936*
Laurette: d. 02-03-1951
- 2- *Hervé: n. 05-11-1901 m. 01-08-1928 d. 04-08-1976*
Marie Anne: n.12-04-1906
- 3- *Lucien: n. 01-12-1903 m. 15-04-1936 d. 04-08-1962*
Liliane: n.29-06-1908 d. 11-08-1974
- 4- *Anita: n. 16-08-1906 d. 11-11-1914*
- 5- *Lucienne: n. 16-08-1908 d. 11-11-1918*
- 6- *Joseph: n. 19-01-1910 m. 16-01-1945 d. 27-03-1985*
Eva: n. 16-01-1924 (voir JOHNSON, Joseph)
- 7- *Clémentine: n. 03-10-1911 d. 13-09-1984*
- 8- *Jean-Marie: n. 14-05-1913 m. 28-11-1975 d. 07-05-1979*
Yvonne: n. 19-12-1905
- 9- *Gérard: n. 25-06-1915 m. 29-03-1948 d. 13-05-1975*
Annette: n. 30-12-1925
- 10- *Rita: n. 29-01-1917 m. 26-12-1940 d. 21-02-1981*
Roland: n. 27-01-1909
- 11- *Henri: n. 03-10-1918 m. 24-11-1948 d. 30-06-1979*
Gabrielle: n. 03-04-1925
- 12- *Guy: n. 21-11-1920 m. 16-08-1967 d. 26-07-1985*
Patricia: n. 08-03-1926

* * *

Emile was the son of Narcisse Johnson and Mary Bernadin dit Soulière. He was born in St. Jacques l'Achigan, Cté Montcalm, P.Q. Marie Anna, his wife, was the daughter of Urgèle Richard and Adélaïde Vézina. They were married in the church of Ste. Marie Salomé Cté Montcalm. This is where their twelve children were born.

In 1922 after careful consideration, the family decided to go west. This decision was prompted by the information received from Father Lemieux of Willow Bunch, Sask. Emile and his son, Lucien, went first; they were later followed by the family. They farmed in Ferland, Saskatchewan from 1922 to 1930. The drought and poor crops caused their moving to the Peace

River Region. Three members of the family did not come. Raoul, who was a teacher, went back to Montreal, with his family. He taught school and resided there until his death in 1936. Clémentine entered the Religious order of "Les Filles de la Croix", left for France where she made her noviciate. Hervé and his young family came to join the family in January of 1931.

Jos and Jean Marie loaded a freight car with their belongings, machinery, cattle and household furniture while the family came by train.

Upon their arrival in Donnelly, November 30th a house was rented for the winter, Emile filed for his homestead NE¹/₄-12-76-21-5th. Emile who was 57 years old left his sons clear enough land to build a two storey log house and farm building. The family moved from Donnelly to Guy in March of 1932.

At the time the church was under construction, the Johnson family was glad to help. Emile who was in the church choir in Ferland, Sask., continued doing so here in Guy. His sons were all choir members as every one sang in this family.

JOHNSON, EMILE & GABOURY, LORRAINE

by Lorraine and Emile

Emile was born in Donnelly to Hervé and Marie Anne Johnson who were living in Donnelly at that time. He is one of the middle children of a family of seven girls and seven boys. When Emile was seventeen years old he moved to Edmonton to work for a construction company where he remained for twelve years.

Lorraine Gaboury was born in Grande Prairie at which time her family was living in Bezanson, having moved there the year before from Leo-ville, Saskatchewan. In 1950, her family moved to a homestead in the bush in Sunset House. By 1952, there were seven boys and two girls in her family. Lorraine went to school in McLennan for one year of High School after completing grade nine in Sunset House School. The next two years were spent in Valleyview where she completed her High School. In 1965, she graduated from the Edmonton General Hospital as a registered nurse. It was at this time that she and Emile met.

Emile and Lorraine were married on May 7, 1966 in the church in Guy. The reception and dance were held in Sunset House.

On September 12, 1968 their first son was born, Hervé Emile.

In April, 1969 Emile decided to try his hand at farming as his father's health was failing; so the big move was made out to the family farm, south of the Little Smoky River.

Lorraine worked at the hospital in Valleyview until 1974 and Emile worked away from home in



Hervé, Rocky, Curtis showing off their ribbons from Smoky River Agricultural fair.

the winter months. During this time two more sons were born, Curtis Irving on May 28, 1970 and Rodrique Lavern (Rocky) on August 15, 1971.

Lorraine now works full time for the South Peace Health Unit in Valleyview as a community health nurse since 1975. Emile has taken care of the Smoky River Ski Hill for many years and is now involved in the construction of a new facility which will be a great asset to our community. Emile is also involved in many other community projects, one of them being the church trustee in Guy.

Over the years of living on the farm, many changes have taken place and many storms have been weathered. Good friends and neighbors and close family members have all played a part in making life more enjoyable and meaningful.

Many different kinds of animals have been raised on the farm including pigs, turkeys, ducks, chickens, rabbits, horses, honey bees and cattle. What started out as a one cow operation has grown to be an 82 head herd of cattle. This has required much fencing and building. It is fortunate that grazing land can be leased from the government for summer grazing.

Many acres of land have been cleared of bush and put into production for grain farming. This has meant many hours of picking rocks and roots. The roots eventually disappear but the rocks keep re-appearing.

Many humorous things have happened over the years; like the time the back door of the house was left open and four little pigs were found sleeping in the living room. Another time a pony and a horse were tied to the children's lawn

swing and something spooked them; they went running down the road with the swing between them. It wasn't all in one piece when they finally stopped.

In 1974, it was decided that a basement should be built under the house so a new site was picked in the trees a half mile south from the original farm site. A basement was built and the house was moved for a second time by Raoul Lambert. At this time running water was installed in the house for the first time since the house was moved from Donnelly in 1961.



R.1 Lorraine & Emile. R.2 Roderigue (Rocky), Hervé, Curtis.

The house was built in Donnelly in 1950, so it needed a face lift from time to time; this year it has received new windows, new roofing and siding.

The boys started school in Guy and when the school was closed in 1979, they went to school in Valleyview. Hervé has just graduated from High School and is attending Grande Prairie College taking his Bachelor of Music. Curtis is interested in art as his career and Rocky wants to be a farmer.

One of the best things about living in this area is that we know we can always count on our

neighbors when assistance is needed and they can count on us. It is also the best place to raise a family.

Emile Johnson: n.02-02-1941 m.07-05-1966

Lorraine Gaboury: n.27-02-1945

CHILDREN:

1. Hervé Emile: n.12-09-1968
2. Curtis Irving: n.28-05-1970
3. Rodrique Lavern: n.15-08-1971

* * *

Emile est né à Donnelly et à l'âge de dix-sept ans il déménagea à Edmonton pour travailler à la construction pendant douze ans.

Lorraine est née à Grande Prairie alors que ses parents étaient de Bezanson. En 1950, ses parents déménagèrent sur un "homestead" à Sunset House. En 1965, elle gradua de l'Hôpital Général d'Edmonton comme infirmière diplômée. C'est à ce temps-là qu'elle rencontra Emile.

Emile et Lorraine se sont mariés le 7 mai 1966 à l'église de Guy.

En avril 1969, Emile décida d'essayer de cultiver puisque la santé de son père se détériorait.

Lorraine travailla à l'hôpital de Valleyview jusqu'en 1974 et Emile travailla à l'extérieur durant les hivers.

Lorraine travaille présentement à Valleyview comme infirmière du district. Emile a prit soin de la côte de ski Smoky River pendant plusieurs années. Emile est impliqué dans des projets communautaires dont l'un est conseiller à l'église de Guy.

Plusieurs acres de terre ont été ouverts et mis en production. Ceci suppose bien des heures à ramasser des roches et des racines.

En 1974, nous avons changé le site de notre maison car il fallait creuser un sous-sol. Nous y avons installé l'eau courante. Cette maison avait été bâti en 1950 à Donnelly.

Un des avantages de vivre dans la région est que nous pouvons toujours compter sur les voisins et eux sur nous. C'est encore le meilleur endroit pour élever une famille.

JOHNSON, GERARD & MAJOR, ANNETTE

by Albert, Marianne and Luc Johnson

Gérard was born on June 25, 1915, in Ste. Marie Salomé, Québec. He was one of the twelve children parented by Emile Johnson and Anna Richard.

There being a scarcity of land available for expansion, the family migrated westward to Fer-



Benoit & Rosalie Major, Annette & Gérard Johnson, Anna & Emile Johnson, résidence de Benoit Major.

land, Saskatchewan where they farmed for eight years from 1922 to 1930.

In 1930, drought and the Depression forced the Johnson family to seek a more promising future in Northern Alberta. They first came to Donnelly Heights where they stayed for a year before settling in Guy.

During the first years Gérard was helping his father and brothers clearing land and setting up the farm. In 1938, he went to work for Cyrille Roy, a farmer in the Falher area.

In 1943, Gérard purchased the NE-14-75-21-W5 from Joseph Bourgeois. The following year he hired Paul Bourgeois of Girouxville to clear an additional 60 acres of land. Mr. Bourgeois operated a crawler tractor and brush cutter, one of the first used in this area.

Proving that "necessity is the mother of invention", Gérard and his brother, Jean-Marie, built a large root-rake. This rake was constructed of large squared timbers and steel rods. With such innovations land-clearing was becoming more efficient and a little less strenuous.

Henri Johnson's army truck was the family's first motorized transportation. It was certainly a vehicle for all occasions; serving for farm work, outings, family picnics, and even for courting ladies.

In 1947, Gérard had logs sawed by Raoul Lambert and planed by Ben May for lumber to build a house. That winter was particularly long and cold with the snow cover persisting to the end of April. On March 29, 1948 Gérard married Annette Major in the Guy church.

Gérard loved to tell jokes and stories. He also had a remarkable repertoire of songs for all occasions. He sang in the church choir for many years



Départ pour la première communion Yvette et son père.

and would blend his voice with those of his brothers at family gatherings.

Entertainment in those days took the form of gathering at one house or another where people sang, ate and played cards with family and friends.

In 1949, Gérard purchased a quarter of land from his brother Henri and began working more on his own. More land was acquired at later dates as he continued expanding the farm.

Gérard and Annette's first child, Yvette, was born in 1949. Raymond followed in 1950, and Albert in 1951. Lucie was born in 1955, and Luc in 1960, completing the family.

When Yvette and Raymond started school, there were no school buses. They had to stay at the convent during the week and were only home on weekends. It was quite hard on the children. A system of busing was in place by the time Albert started school; it was much better for all concerned. All the children completed their primary education in Guy and finished high school in Falher and Donnelly.

Yvette was married in 1971 to André Beaudoin; they now reside in Slave Lake where André works as a heavy duty mechanic and welder. Yvette keeps busy taking care of her family, working part-time and is also involved in church and community work. Yvette and André have three girls: Monique, Geneviève and Andréa.

Gérard loved the land very much, and farmed until he passed away in 1975. Annette and her sons continued the farming.

Raymond married Audrey Bolinger in 1976. They currently live in Grande Prairie where Raymond works as a heavy duty mechanic and Audrey gives piano lessons. They have two children: Kyle and Erica. Another child, Amelia, lived only two days.

Lucie married John Fortunato in the summer of 1982. They are living in Calgary where Lucie works as an audiologist at the Children's Hospi-



Gérard et ses fils: Albert, Luc et Raymond. Lucie, Annette & Yvette dans le jardin.

tal. John is an engineer and works for a Calgary firm.

Albert has been farming since he finished University. He purchased his uncle Henri's farm in 1974.

Luc married Marianne Howell in 1985, and is farming with Albert and Annette. Marianne is a registered nurse and works in McLennan.

Albert and Luc enjoy cycling immensely and have travelled many miles together around the countryside. Annette still enjoys the farm very much and spends many hours in her garden.

Gérard Johnson; n.25-06-1915 m.29-03-1948 d.13-05-1975

Annette Major; n.30-12-1925

CHILDREN:

1. Yvette; n.13-03-1949 m.23-10-1971
André Beaudoin; n.31-03-1944. They have three children: Monique, Geneviève and Andréa.
2. Raymond; n.11-10-1950 m.23-04-1976
Audrey Bolinger; n.10-04-1954. They have two children: Kyle and Erica.
3. Albert; n.13-11-1951.
4. Lucie; n.12-10-1955 m.03-07-1982
John Fortunato; n.26-01-1953
5. Luc; n.22-06-1960 m.22-06-1985
Marianne Howell; n.16-01-1960

* * *

De Ste-Marie Salomé, Québec, la famille d'Emile Johnson et Anna Richard émigra vers Ferland, Saskatchewan où ils cultivèrent pendant huit ans de 1922 à 1930.

En 1930, la sécheresse et la crise économique força les Johnsons à chercher un meilleur avenir dans le nord de l'Alberta. Ils vinrent premièrement à Donnelly Heights où ils demeurèrent pour un an avant de s'installer à Guy.

Durant ces premières années, Gérard aidait son père et ses frères à ouvrir du terrain et à aménager la ferme.

En 1943, Gérard acheta un quart de Jos Bourgeois.

Le 29 mars 1948, Gérard épousa Annette Major dans l'église de Guy.

En 1949 Gérard acquit un quart de terre de son frère Henri et commença à travailler plus pour lui-même. Il acheta d'autres terrains pour agrandir sa ferme.

JOHNSON, GUY & O'HAGAN, PATRICIA

par Eva Johnson

Guy est le benjamin de la famille d'Emile Johnson. Il est âgé de dix ans à son arrivée à Donnelly. Il fréquente l'école de Donnelly Heights un an, ensuite l'école de Donnelly. Quand la famille arrive à Guy, l'école Benoit vient d'ouvrir ses portes et Guy devient le concierge tout en étant étudiant. Il a la responsabilité d'allumer la fournaise à bois chaque matin.

Plus tard il travaille avec ses frères. La guerre arrive; il n'a pas la santé pour entrer dans l'armée donc il devient aide-cuisinier à la maison. Après le décès de ses parents il demeure avec son frère Jean-Marie, et aide encore à la cuisine. De pauvre santé il est souvent hospitalisé; c'est ainsi qu'il rencontre celle qui devient sa femme, Patricia O'Hagan, infirmière à l'hôpital de McLennan. Elle vient d'Irlande et habite le pays depuis quelques années car elle a pratiqué sa profession dans l'est du Canada avant d'arriver à McLennan. C'est le 16 août 1967 qu'ils se sont épousés à Peace River. La lune de miel se passe dans la petite maison qu'il a aménagée sur sa propriété, NW 12-75-21-W5, un véritable petit nid d'amour. Il cultive quelques années, puis décide de vendre une terre à Denis Aubin et l'autre à Henry Minarovich.



Roméo, Pat & Guy Johnson.

Le couple déménage à McLennan où Pat travaille comme infirmière. Elle se trouve ensuite un emploi à Dawson Creek et c'est un nouveau déménagement.

Patricia s'ennuie de sa patrie alors en 1975 le couple fait un séjour de trois ans en Irlande.

De retour Pat reprend son emploi à l'hôpital de McLennan et Guy devient chauffeur d'autobus scolaire.

En 1981 ils retournent faire un voyage de trois mois en Irlande pour revenir à Noël 1981. Pat travaille cette fois au foyer Notre-Dame du Lac à McLennan, mais ils retournent bientôt à Wicklow, Irlande, quelques mois plus tard. Cette fois ils se sont achetés une maison.

Guy est décédé le vingt-six juillet 1985 en Irlande. Son épouse vit toujours dans son pays natal.

Guy Johnson: n. 21-11-1920 m. 16-08-1967 d. 26-07-1985

Patricia O'Hagan: n. 08-03-1926

* * *

Guy was the youngest of the family. He was ten when he arrived in Donnelly, with his family. He attended the school of Donnelly Heights, for a year, then he attended the Donnelly Consolidated school. When the family moved to Guy, the Benoit school had just opened its doors, so Guy attended this school while being the janitor also.

Later he worked on the farm with his brother. Being of poor health he stayed home during the war, and helped on the farm. He was often hospitalized. This is where he met his wife to be, Pat O'Hagan who was a nurse in McLennan. Pat is originally from Ireland but had been in Canada for a few years. They were married August 16, 1967 in Peace River.

Guy later sold his land and moved to McLennan, where his wife worked as a nurse. She later was employed in Dawson Creek so they both moved there.

In 1975 Pat missing her homeland, convinced her husband that they should move to Ireland. Three years later they were back in Canada, Pat working at the McLennan Hospital, and Guy became a school bus driver.

In 1981 they returned to Ireland for a three month period. Back in Canada, Pat worked as a nurse, in Our Lady of the Lake Nursing Home in McLennan. A few months later they moved back to Ireland, this time to stay.

Guy passed away on the 26th of July 1985 and Pat still lives in Ireland.

JOHNSON, HENRI & GAGNON, GABRIELLE

par Pauline Johnson Tanguay

Henri Johnson, l'avant dernier des douze enfants d'Émile et d'Anna Richard, naquit le 3 octobre 1918 à Ste-Marie Salomé, P.Q. En 1922, Émile et sa famille plièrent bagages et commencèrent leur aventure vers l'Ouest – là où les garçons pourraient s'établir sur leurs propres fermes.

Leur première résidence dans l'Ouest fut à Ferland, Saskatchewan. En raison de la grande dépression, les Johnson tentèrent à nouveau leur chance, mais cette fois, à Donnelly, Alberta. Ils y arrivèrent en 1930.



Henri et Gabrielle Johnson.

Henri poursuivit ses études à Donnelly Heights et à Donnelly même. A cette époque, se rendre à l'école était tout un accomplissement en soi. On s'y rendait à pied et plusieurs milles devaient être parcourus avant d'arriver à destination donc, afin de poursuivre ses études, Henri marcha plusieurs milles, dans des bottes empruntées à son père.

En 1932, la famille déménagea à Guy. Ici, Henri travailla pour aider à la subsistance de sa famille. Pour ce faire, il travailla comme homme à gage avec des équipes de "batteurs"

chez Edouard Cimon, Cyril Roy et Sébastien Jasmin pour n'en nommer que quelques-uns.

Le 20 février 1942, Henri s'inscrivit officiellement dans l'armée pour y dépenser quatre ans de sa vie de jeunesse.



Jos, Henri et père Johnson, 1943.

Le 9 août 1932, Gabrielle Gagnon arriva de Québec avec ses parents pour s'installer à Falher. C'est ici qu'elle fit ses études primaires et secondaires et qu'elle développa ses aptitudes musicales. Elle étudia neuf ans le piano sous la tutelle des religieuses de Ste-Croix.

Chose rare pour les filles à cette époque, Gabrielle choisit de poursuivre ses études à l'école d'agriculture à Olds où elle suivit un cours d'arts ménagers. Olds se trouvait à une distance considérable de chez elle, donc Gabrielle devait se rendre à cette école par train et demeurer en résidence. Elle termina ses études à l'Institution d'Olds le 5 avril 1945.

Deux ans après sa sortie de l'armée, le 24 novembre 1948, Henri épousa Gabrielle Gagnon, surnommée Gaby, fille de Donat et de Marie-Jeanne Lauzon de Falher. Bien que Gaby fut une fille de village, la vie de campagne ne lui était pas inconnue. Tous les étés depuis l'âge de quatorze ans, elle était cuisinière pour les hommes à gages de son père dans une "caboose" sur la ferme à Guy, où plus tard elle demeura avec son frère, Paul.

Immédiatement après leur mariage célébré par le Père Raphaël Lechasseur, o.m.i. Henri et Gaby partirent en autobus pour passer dix jours à Edmonton.

De retour de leur lune de miel, les nouveaux mariés demeurèrent quelques jours à Guy chez Paul, le frère de Gaby. Ensuite le 14 décembre 1948, ils s'installèrent chez Benoît et Cécile Aubin étant donné que la maison de ces derniers était libre. Comme Cécile enseignait et demeu-

rait à Donnelly pour les mois d'hiver, Henri et Gaby s'occupèrent d'entretenir et de chauffer la maison en leur absence.

Le 24 avril 1949, Henri et Gaby déménagèrent dans une cabane en rodins (le "shack" comme ils l'appelaient). Cette cabane était et est encore située au SE 11-75-21-5 sur une demi-section acquise par l'intermédiaire de "Veterans Land Assistance". Ici, 180 acres seulement étaient défrichés. Henri possédait déjà un quart de terre (homestead). Ce "homestead" il le vendit en janvier 1949 à son frère, Gérard, pour la modique somme de 3000,00 \$.

Pour chercher des provisions, pour aller visiter leurs familles, ils voyagèrent soit avec cheval et "buggy" ou par jeep qu'Henri avait acquis de l'armée. Plus tard, un tracteur Massey Harris de 2400,00 \$ remplacerait le jeep comme moyen de transport.

Le premier hiver fut dur pour les nouveaux mariés. Gaby se voyait obligée de porter continuellement ses bottes à cause du froid. Elle ne les ôtait que pour se coucher. Le poêle à bois devait être chauffé sans cesse et surveillé de très près car un oubli de la clé de tuyau pouvait résulter en incendie. Malgré la chaleur du poêle, le matin, le jeune couple devait casser la glace dans le bol aux mains avant de se laver la figure.

Gaby s'endormait souvent au son des hurlements des loups de bois. Elle fut témoin d'un feu de forêt qui dévora plusieurs acres au printemps 1949. Ce n'est que par miracle que le jeune couple et leur demeure furent épargnés.

Parce qu'il n'y avait pas de chemins, ce ne fut qu'en juillet 1949 que Gaby put finalement rendre visite à ses parents à Girouxville, à une distance de 28 milles.

Egalement en juillet 1949 débuta la construction de la maison de rêves d'Henri et Gaby. En novembre, Jos et Anatole Turcotte, ainsi qu'Henri, montèrent la charpente imposante de cette maison à quatre chambres à coucher. Ce ne fut que le 3 avril 1950, journée du 25ième anniversaire de Gaby, que le jeune couple déménagea dans leur nouvelle demeure – un cadeau de fête très apprécié.

Pendant plusieurs années, Henri cultiva ses terres. Son bras droit fut Gaby qui conduisait le camion à grain, déchargeait le grain et conduisait la moissonneuse-batteuse pour permettre à son époux de prendre ses repas.

La demi-section où ils habitent ne fut complètement défricher qu'à l'été 1958.

L'électricité arriva en 1953. C'était une bénédiction pour la famille.

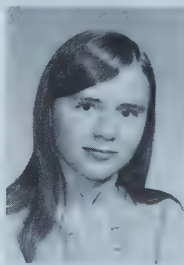
Une grande amélioration fut la construction en juin 1956 de la grande route #2. Cette

route fut source de grande joie pour Henri et sa famille car elle passait à leur porte.

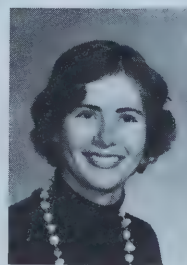
L'année 1957 en fut une très mauvaise car l'hiver arriva très tôt (1er octobre) et plusieurs récoltes restèrent sur les champs incluant la leur. Donc, l'hiver 1957 fut très long et très pénible pour la jeune famille.

En automne 1958, pour suppléer aux revenus de la famille, Henri devint chauffeur d'autobus pour la commission scolaire de High Prairie. Il le fut également pour la commission scolaire de Falher lors des disputes des écoles. En 1968, lorsqu'on fermait le secondaire à l'école Langlois de Guy, Henri ne voulut pas envoyer ses enfants à l'école de Donnelly car il croyait à ce temps-là que cette école n'offrait pas assez de français. Donc, pendant deux ans, sans rémunération, Henri chauffa un autobus pour transporter ses enfants et d'autres qui avaient choisi de se rendre à l'école Routhier. Le trajet de Guy à Falher était long mais Henri était convaincu que cela en valait la peine pour le futur de ses filles. Chauffeur d'autobus il le fut jusqu'en avril 1979, deux mois avant sa mort.

L'année 1966 fut mémorable pour deux raisons. Premièrement, Henri acheta une demi-section de sa belle-soeur Liliane, épouse de Lucien. Deuxièmement, l'eau courante fut installée dans la maison. Cette commodité fut grandement appréciée de tous.



Pauline



Renée



Simonne Johnson



Marie Johnson.

Henri et Gaby se dévouèrent beaucoup pour leur paroisse. Tous les dimanches, sans faute, Henri chantait à la messe accompagné fidèlement par Gaby, qui pour près de vingt ans joua de l'orgue. Tous deux furent membres du comité de liturgie de la paroisse.

La maison d'Henri et de Gaby en fut une de nombreuses rencontres familiales. Les Johnson savaient bien se divertir et passer le temps. Ils se rencontraient chez Henri et voilà que commençaient les veillées d'antan comme au Québec: chansons à répondre et chants de la Bonne Chanson. Gaby passa plusieurs heures au piano à accompagner ses beaux-frères. Quand les frères se lassaient de la chanson, ils jouaient une bonne partie de bridge. On avait rarement le temps de s'ennuyer.

Henri et Gaby eurent la chance de visiter à nouveau leurs paroisses natales. Premièrement en décembre 1973 lors de leur 25ième anniversaire de mariage et deuxièmement en juillet 1975 avec leurs filles Pauline et Marie.

Dû à une santé déclinante, Henri se vit obligé de vendre ses terres. Donc, le 10 septembre 1974 il vendit à son neveu, Albert, fils de Gérard. Henri se réserva le droit de la maison et de 5 acres de terres jusqu'à sa mort. Pour passer le temps après la vente de ses terres, Henri continua d'être chauffeur d'autobus. De plus, pendant leurs cinq années à la retraite, Henri et Gaby voyagèrent pendant les mois d'été.

Le 30 mai 1979, à l'hôpital Général d'Edmonton, Henri apprit qu'il avait la leucémie. Un mois plus tard il est décédé.

Gaby réside maintenant à Falher. Elle partage son temps entre son premier amour, la musique (elle est une des deux organistes de Falher), et ses quatre filles.

Henri Johnson: n. 03-10-1918 m. 24-11-1948 d. 30-05-1979

Gabrielle Gagnon: n. 03-04-1925

ENFANTS:

1- Simonne: n. 03-12-1950 m. 09-12-1978

Allan Goodfellow: n. 08-09-1953

a) Michelle: n. 05-11-1980

b) Danielle: n. 16-08-1983

c) Rachelle: n. 23-01-1986

Allan est géophysiciste avec la compagnie Pan Canadian. Il réside à Airdrie, AB, avec sa femme et ses trois filles.

2- Renée: n. 02-11-1952 m. 30-10-1976

Laurent Guénette: n. 22-03-1954

a) Rhéal: n. 11-03-1981

b) Marc: n. 25-04-1986

Ils demeurent à Calgary.

3- Pauline: n. 03-01-1957 m. 24-08-1979

Jacques Tanguay: n. 16-03-1957

a) Nadia: n. 02-01-1984

Ils demeurent à Donnelly.

4- Marie: n. 05-02-1961 m. 11-07-1986

Wesley Rogers: n. 24-02-1964

Elle est infirmière résidente à Peace River et il est étudiant en mécanique à Fairview.

SOUVENIRS D'UN PERE

Veines protubérantes sur des mains

Chaudes, rugueuses et tendres.

Elles se tendent vers

L'enfant qui lui sourit.

Bras musclés et basanés,

Corps solide et ferme,

Il se tord, se penche et se plie,

Travaillant au dur labeur de ses rêves.

Yeux pers, fiers et moqueurs,

Parfois soucieux et sombres,

Ils observent judicieusement le déroulement de la vie,

Méditant le destin tracé par son Dieu.

L'homme: chaleureux, sensible et dévoué,

Brûlé par le désir de se donner

Repose maintenant pour l'éternité

Où l'enfant ira un jour le retrouver.

* * *

Henri Johnson arrived in Donnelly, Alberta, with his parents in 1930, and attended school in Donnelly Heights then in Donnelly.

In 1932 Henri moved to Guy, again with his family and worked for different farmers of the area until 1942 when he spent the four best years of his life in the army. Two years later he married Gabrielle Gagnon, daughter of Donat and Marie-Jeanne Lauzon of Falher.

Their first home on their land, SE 11-75-21-5, was a log house. There were 180 acres under cultivations. The roads were only trails so the young couple did not go out very often. Luckily a new house was begun in 1949 to be completed in 1950. On her 25th birthday Gabrielle moved in her spacious new home.

Henri finished opening the home section in 1958. Gabrielle assisted him at harvest time by driving the grain truck.

From 1958 to 1979 Henri drove a school bus to add to his revenues from the farm.

Henri and his wife were always faithful to the church choir - Gabrielle played the organ while Henri sang and sometimes directed for twenty years.

The couple often entertained in their home. Gabrielle played the piano and Henri's brothers,

neighbors and friends soon had a party going – singing and at times dancing.

Because of ill health, Henri sold his land to his nephew, Albert Johnson in 1974 but kept 5 acres where his house was located. He lived there till his death in June, 1979.

Gabrielle now resides in Falher. Music and her four girls are her joy now.

JOHNSON, HERVE & MORIN, MARIE-ANNE

by Jacques Johnson o.m.i.

Hervé Johnson was born in Sainte-Marie Salomé, Québec on November 5, 1901. His wife was Marie-Anne Morin daughter of Adonias Morin and Emilienne L'Abbé, born in St. Bernard, Québec on April 12, 1906. They were married in Ferland, Saskatchewan on August 1, 1928. They raised 14 children, seven boys and seven girls. They had their two eldest daughters Thérèse and Anne-Marie, when they moved from Ferland to Donnelly in January 1931.

The other children born in Donnelly were: Marguerite, André, Clément, Denise, Jacques, Cécile, Emile, Françoise, Juliette, Raoul, Jean and Etienne. Their dream of living on a farm finally became a reality for the Johnson family when they took a homestead south of the Smoky River in 1955. At that time there was no bridge south of Guy. To cross the river one had to drive south of Falher and use the ferry at Vincelette's. Then it was bush trails until you got to the homestead which at that time was covered with bush following a forest fire that had burned everything in its path a few years before.

The first year, travelling from Donnelly every few days, Hervé Johnson with the help of his boys broke twenty acres without bothering to brushcut, dragging a chain behind the breaking

plow to help turn the young trees under. The following year, Hervé's son-in-law, Joe Bouchard seeded oats and harvested a bumper crop averaging well over 100 bushels an acre. In the summer of 1960, the Johnson family made the decision to move their house from Donnelly to the homestead.

July 1965 was the occasion for a great celebration, not only for the Johnson family but also for the Guy Parish. Father Jacques Johnson, o.m.i., the seventh child of the Johnson family was returning home after having recently been ordained a priest in Rome where he had been studying for five years. The Johnson uncles and aunts, Father Clement Richer, the pastor, and the parishoners had organized a solemn high mass presided by the new priest, followed by a beautiful meal; and in the evening a concert was presented in honor of the young priest. The parish offered him luggage for his future travels. It was the first time that a priest celebrated his first solemn mass in Guy.

* * *

Hervé et Marie-Anne se sont mariés à Ferland, Saskatchewan le 1 août 1928. Ils ont élevé quatorze enfants, 7 garçons et 7 filles. Ils avaient leurs deux filles aînées, Thérèse et Anne-Marie quand ils ont quitté Ferland pour Donnelly en janvier 1931. Les autres enfants nés à Donnelly sont: Marguerite, André, Clément, Denise, Jacques, Cécile, Emile, Françoise, Juliette, Raoul, Jean et Etienne. Leur rêve d'avoir une ferme devint réalité quand ils prirent un "homestead" au sud de la rivière Little Smoky en 1955. A ce temps, il n'y avait pas de pont au sud de Guy. Pour traverser la rivière on devait se rendre au sud de Falher et prendre le traversier chez Vincelette. Ensuite, c'était des sentiers dans le bois pour se rendre au "homestead" qui était couvert de jeunes pousses après qu'un feu de forêt soit passé quelques années auparavant.

La première année, voyageant de Donnelly à tous les quelques jours, Hervé Johnson avec l'aide de ses garçons cassa vingt acres, traînant une chaîne derrière la charrue à casser pour enterrer les jeunes arbres. L'année suivante, un gendre, Joe Bouchard sema de l'avoine et récolta une grosse récolte qui rendit au dessus de cent minots de l'acre.

L'été de 1960, la famille Johnson prit la décision de déménager leur maison de Donnelly à leur "homestead". Comme le déménagement prit plus de temps que prévu, ils durent vivre dans deux entrepôts à grain de juillet jusqu'au



André, Raoul, Jean, Clément, Marie Anne, Emile, Jacques, o.m.i., Hervé, Marguerite, Denise, Françoise, Juliette, Anne Marie, Cécile, Thérèse, Etienne en avant. Pris à Guy lors de la réception pour le Père Jacques après son retour de Rome.

10 novembre. C'est avec soulagement qu'ils virent enfin arriver la maison.

Hervé, Josephat Fortier et Paul Maisonneuve, résidents de la région, négocièrent avec la Municipalité de Smoky River pour obtenir des chemins passables. En 1959, les mêmes familles formèrent un district scolaire dans la région qu'ils nommèrent Villemarie. Ceci apportait certains avantages comme des octrois pour un autobus scolaire pour conduire les enfants à Guy. A ce temps, les quatre derniers enfants (Juliette, Raoul, Jean et Etienne) jouissaient du trajet en autobus.

Le mois de juillet fut l'occasion d'une grande célébration non seulement pour la famille Johnson, mais aussi pour toute la paroisse de Guy. Le R.P. Jacques Johnson revenait chez lui après avoir été ordonné prêtre à Rome où il avait étudié durant cinq ans. Les oncles et les tantes, le R.P. Clément Richer, pasteur, et les paroissiens avaient organisé une messe solennelle présidée par le nouvel ordonné, suivie d'un grand banquet. Le soir un concert fut présenté en l'honneur du jeune prêtre. La paroisse lui offrit un ensemble de valises pour ses futurs voyages. C'était la première fois qu'un prêtre célébrait sa première messe solennelle à Guy.

JOHNSON, JEAN-MARIE & GAUTHIER (LAUZE), YVONNE

par Yvonne Lauzé Johnson

Jean-Marie fut le huitième enfant de la famille d'Emile Johnson, de descendance acadienne. Comme tous les jeunes gens de son temps Jean-Marie a travaillé chez d'autres fermiers. C'est en 1936 qu'il s'en vient à Guy avec son frère, Jos, pour ouvrir son terrain, NW 13-75-21-W5. Plus tard en 1941 Jean-Marie avec l'aide de ses frères construit une maison sur son "homestead". Ses parents viennent habiter avec lui et ce logis devient la maison paternelle. Après le décès de ses parents c'est encore chez Jean-Marie que la famille se rassemble. Jean-Marie était excellent hôte. Il recevait ses frères, ses amis et les Pères du Collège Notre Dame pour de succulents repas, suivis d'une sérieuse partie de bridge. Venait ensuite le moment de chanter, de raconter et de repasser toutes les chansons que son père, Emile, avait introduites chez-lui. Gérard avait beaucoup d'entrain et voici qu'on entonnait toutes nos belles chansons canadiennes. Joseph était ordinairement l'entraîneur et comme on s'amusait bien! Henri ne manquait pas de faire sa part. Ça marchait rondement.

Gérard et Jean-Marie furent les premiers dans cet arrondissement à ouvrir du terrain



Partie de carte chez Gérard Johnson. Aldéo & Benoit Major. Gérard & Jean-Marie Johnson.

avec un "Bulldozer". Ceci était en 1945-46. Cette fameuse machine appartenait à Paul Bourgeois de Girouxville et avait pour opérateurs Roland Lavoie et Lucien Lanctôt. Plus tard Jean-Marie s'achète un tracteur "Minneapolis Moline". Quelle amélioration! Il remplace toutes ses vieilles machines agricoles à tour de rôle; si bien qu'en 1955 il peut ajouter une moissonneuse-batteuse. Pour parvenir à faire ces achats il vend ses animaux: vaches et cochons. Avec ces machines modernes le travail est plus agréable et il y a meilleure chance de progrès. Plus tard il achète la terre d'Alfred Nichol, celle d'Ed Dupuis et prend une concession qu'il défriche d'un coin à l'autre. En 1974 il vend tout ce qu'il possède à Denis Johnson, son neveu.

Il déménage à la Villa Beauséjour à Falher où son frère, Hervé et sa femme vivent déjà.

"Je visitais souvent Hervé et Marie Anne Johnson à la Villa Beauséjour. C'est donc ainsi que j'ai mieux connu Jean-Marie. J'étais éprise du beau Lincoln Continental bleu! Après quelques sorties avec lui je fus attirée par sa grande bonté et nous voici faisant des plans d'avenir. Donc le 28 novembre 1975 nous nous sommes mariés à la chapelle du Collège de Falher. Après une très intime célébration nous partions pour passer l'hiver à Phoenix, Arizona. Le printemps suivant nous avons aussi visité son frère, Guy et sa belle-soeur Pat, en Irlande. Quel beau pays que l'Irlande! Nous sommes demeurés à Wicklow dans un petit hôtel à une dizaine de milles de chez Guy.

L'hiver 1978-79 nous l'avons passé à Phoenix, mais le pauvre Jean-Marie n'a pas beaucoup joui de son séjour car il était atteint du cancer. Sa santé s'est aggravée rapidement et nous avons dû revenir plus tôt que prévu. Il est décédé trois semaines après son arrivée à l'hô-



Jean-Marie, Yvonne dans les jardins d'Irlande.

pital de McLennan. Je continue toujours de vivre à la Villa Beauséjour de Falher.

Jean-Marie Johnson: n.14-05-1913 m.28-11-1975 d.07-05-1979

Yvonne: n. 19-12-1905 1m. à Albert Lauzé, 2m. à Jean-Maire Johnson.

* * *

Jean Marie was the eighth child of Emile Johnson. Like many young men of his days he worked for other farmers before clearing his own homestead in 1936. In 1941 he built a house where his parents moved and lived till they passed on.

Jean Marie was known to be a good host. Often his brothers, friends and Fathers of the College Notre Dame would come over for an excellent supper followed by a "very serious" game of bridge. And singing and storytelling. They usually had a great time.

Jean Marie and Gerard were the first to clear their land with a bulldozer, in 1945-46. He later bought himself a "Minneapolis Moline" tractor. With the aid of this modern machinery, the farm work was done a lot quicker. In 1955 he bought himself a combine, and a few more pieces of land. In 1974, he sold everything, lock, stock and barrel, to his nephew, Denis Johnson, and moved to the Villa Beausejour where his brother Hervé and his wife, Marie Anne were already living. That is where he met Yvonne Lauzé. They married and travelled to Phoenix, Arizona, to Ireland to visit his brother Guy. His last trip to Phoenix

was shortened because of illness. He passed away three weeks after his return to Falher.

His wife is now a resident of Villa Beausejour in Falher.

JOHNSON, JOSEPH & DESFOSSES, EVA

par Eva

Joseph est le 6ième enfant de la famille Emile Johnson. Il est né un 19 janvier, jour où il pleuvait à boire debout de dire sa mère. Il a fréquenté l'école du rang à Ste-Marie Salomé, P.Q., et ensuite l'école du village dirigée par les religieuses de Ste-Anne.



Yvonne, Paul, Roméo, Eva, Denis, Jos, 1950.

Jos est âgé de 12 ans lorsque sa famille arrive à Ferland, Sask. Dès l'âge de 15 ans il quitte l'école afin d'aider aux travaux de la ferme. A 20 ans il arrive à Donnelly avec ses parents et travaille chez l'un ou l'autre fermier de la région, afin d'aider la famille financièrement. Il applique sur du terrain au nord de Guy mais conseillé par M. Napoléon Loiselle il le laisse tomber pour prendre le SE ¼ 07-75-20-W5. Comme tous les autres jeunes qui doivent travailler pour des gages plutôt minces, durant les années trente, Jos pense qu'il serait mieux de

cultiver pour lui-même. Ses frères et lui louent du terrain qu'ils cultivent avec la machinerie de leur père. Ceci aussi n'est pas trop payant. Alors il décide qu'il vaut mieux s'installer chez lui.

En 1936 il bâtit son premier "shack" de log; cela devient la résidence des frères Johnson en attendant que chacun ait son propre chez lui. En 1936 c'est aussi l'année où le parti du Crédit Social entre au pouvoir en Alberta avec M. W. Aberhart comme Premier Ministre. Celui-ci voit à créer du travail surtout à la construction de chemins. Jos se trouve donc de l'emploi pour le gouvernement provincial mais se fait payer avec des "scripts", monnaie issue par le gouvernement de la province. Ces fameux "scripts" ne sont pas toujours reconnus pour de l'argent courant et sont parfois difficile à écouler car les propriétaires de magasin hésitent à les accepter; leur circulation fut de courte durée.

Faire la cuisine et tenir maison est un nouveau métier pour Jos et Jean-Marie. Il faut tout de même dire que leur mère donne un bon coup de main à ses garçons en leur apportant du bon pain de ménage et du beurre fait à la maison ainsi que du cannage. Il n'est pas rare de voir leur père aussi arriver avec un pot-au-feu ou autre plat savoureux. Malgré cela Jos est content de retourner chez ses parents en fin de semaine.

Jos nous dit que sa première récolte n'a pas été payante, la gelée est venue tôt.

Les années se suivent mais ne se ressemblent pas. C'est en 1939 et la deuxième guerre mondiale. Jos reçoit son appel pour faire du service militaire à Grande Prairie, en décembre. C'est à ce temps qu'il rencontre Eva, celle qui sera sa compagne pour la vie.

Eva est la fille aînée de Roméo Desfossés et de Maria Coulombe. Elle est née à Vivian, Dakota Sud. Ses parents reviennent en Alberta en 1926 et s'installent à Wainwright où M. Desfossés est agent du garage Chevrolet. Il fait de bonnes affaires mais les enfants sont d'âge scolaire et il faut penser à une école où le français sera enseigné. Leur destination est donc Falher où les religieuses de Ste-Croix oeuvrent dans l'enseignement. Eva tout comme ses frères et soeurs a connu la vie de pensionnaire au couvent de Falher.

En 1942 elle est employée au bureau de poste de Falher où son père est maître de poste. Elle garde cette occupation jusqu'en janvier 1945. Le premier mars 1944 Jos obtint son congé définitif de l'armée à la grande joie des amoureux.

Jos reprend sa vie de fermier; il enseme avec ses frères et durant l'été coupe des billots pour du bois de charpente qu'il fait scier à



R.1 Ernest, Paul, Eva, Roméo, Gilbert. R.2 Yvonne, Alice, Monique, Richard. R.3 Laurent, Arthur, Denis, Marcel, Eugène.

Girouxville à la scierie St-André, après les récoltes. Il construit donc une maison avec l'aide de ses frères et creuse un étang pour recevoir l'eau de la fonte des neiges au printemps.

Le 16 janvier 1945 Jos et Eva unissent leur destinée en l'église Ste-Anne de Falher. La vie à deux commence. Jos est occupé aux travaux d'hiver et Eva s'initie au métier de maîtresse de maison. Dès octobre une petite fille vient égayer le foyer suivie d'un petit frère l'année suivante. Et la famille augmente avec les années. Jos achète d'autre terrain et améliore son domaine. Les années passent bonnes et parfois pas si bonnes.

En 1975, avec l'aide de ses garçons, hommes à leur tour, Jos construit une maison moderne avec toutes les commodités. Il en est fier, la vie est plus facile, il y a plus de temps libre. Jos et Eva en profite pour voyager un peu.

En 1979, Jos vend une section de terre à son fils, Gilbert, mais se réserve la maison et son emplacement, pour son chez-lui permanent.

En 1983, Jos doit subir une intervention chirurgicale; c'est le cancer. Il doit prendre des traitements de radiologie et revient à la maison. Il jouit de la vie et tout semble bien aller jusqu'en septembre 1984 quand il doit subir une autre opération. Cette fois les médecins lui disent qu'ils ne peuvent rien de plus pour lui. Jos passe ses derniers mois chez lui au milieu des siens. Toujours joyeux il chante beaucoup malgré les souffrances. Il est même le soutien moral des siens. Le 27 mars 1985 il rend le dernier soupir entouré de sa famille. Il faut dire que le Rév. Père René Bélanger, curé de la paroisse de Guy a été d'un grand secours moral pour la famille. Il lui a rendu visite souvent et a célébré la messe à domicile aussi souvent que possible, même la veille de Noël et du jour de l'an.



Pèpère Johnson et ses 3 petits fils: Alain, Michael Johnson et Marc Beerling.

Eva continue de vivre dans son logis sur la ferme, fait son petit train de vie. Comme la famille est éparpillée à travers le Canada, ceci occasionne quelques petits voyages fort appréciés.

Joseph Johnson: n. 19-01-1910 m. 16-01-1945 d. 27-03-1985

Eva Desfossés: n. 16-01-1924

ENFANTS:

- 1- *Yvonne: n. 21-10-1945 m. 28-10-1972*
1m.: Joseph Pandolfini: n. 22-02-1946 d. 05-09-1980
Ils ont une fille, Lynn.
2m.: Gilles Sénécal: m. 26-06-1982. Ils demeurent à Châteauguay, P.Q. Yvonne est infirmière puéricultrice à l'hôpital Ste-Justine de Montréal.
- 2- *Roméo: n. 17-10-1946 m. 27-08-1980*
Mary Sybly: n. 30-06-1943. Ils demeurent à Edmonton et il est dessinateur pour la ville d'Edmonton.
- 3- *Paul: n. 24-11-1947 m. 09-10-1975*
Helen Williab: n. 06-10-1946. Ils demeurent à Fort Smith et il travaille dans l'industrie forestière. Ils ont trois enfants: Faye, Michael et Elizabeth.
- 4- *Denis: n. 12-02-1949. Il est cultivateur et demeure à Guy.*
- 5- *Gilbert: n. 09-05-1950 d. 14-05-1950*
- 6- *Gilbert: n. 14-09-1951. Il est cultivateur et demeure à Guy.*

- 7- *Laurent: n. 23-03-1953 m. 09-06-1984*
Darlene Van Brabant: n. 05-02-1956
Ils ont une fille Diane.
- 8- *Ernest: n. 08-09-1954 m. 04-12-1976*
Rollande Tardif: n. 25-08-1958
Ils ont trois enfants: Alain, Anita et Julie. Il travaille comme agent d'élevateur à Tangent.
- 9- *Alice: n. 22-03-1956 m. 08-11-1975*
Rick Beerling: n. 06-11-1948
Ils ont trois enfants, Marc et Christopher et Samantha demeurent à Fort St. John.
- 10- *Richard: n. 21-10-1957 m. 10-7-87 Liliam Sequeira. Ils ont une petite fille Andrée. Il est travailleur social et demeure à Toronto.*
- 11- *Monique: n. 18-10-1958. Elle est enseignante à Calgary.*
- 12- *Eugène: n. 10-05-1960. Il travaille à l'O.N.F. et demeure à Edmonton.*
- 13- *Marcel: n. 19-12-1962. Il travaille pour Esso et demeure à Valleyview.*
- 14- *Arthur: n. 11-10-1964. Il est étudiant à la Faculté St-Jean, Edmonton.*

* * *

Joseph was the sixth child of Emile Johnson. He was born January 19, 1910 in Ste. Marie Salomé, where he attended school. When he was 12 his family moved to Ferland, Sask. There he attended school until he was fifteen, after that he went to work on the farm with his brothers.

When Jos was 20, he and his family moved to the Peace River region, near Donnelly, AB.

Bachelor life was a new experience for Jos and his brothers, but his parents helped out every now and then.

In 1939, the war began. In 1942 Joseph was drafted in the army. It was during this time that he met Eva, who would become his wife.

Eva is the daughter of Roméo Desfossés. She was born in Vivian, South Dakota, U.S.A. In 1926 they moved to Wainwright, AB. where Mr. Desfossés managed a Chevrolet garage. When his children reached school age, he moved to Falher so they could have an education in the French language. Jos and Eva with the help of their sons, now young men, built a new house with all modern facilities. In 1979, Jos sold some of his land to his son Gilbert. He kept the home quarter.

In 1983, Jos stricken with cancer, had a surgical operation. After radiotherapy, all was well, until September 1984, when the cancer struck again. After a second operation the doctor told him there wasn't anything more they could do for him. He passed away March 27, 1985 in his home surrounded by his loved ones.

JOHNSON, LUCIEN & COTE, LILIANE

par Eva Johnson

Lucien est le troisième fils de la famille Emile Johnson. Il est né à Ste-Marie Salomé. Son épouse Liliane est née à Butte, Montana, fille aînée de Phillias Côté et Joséphine Pelletier.



Lucien en avant du premier shack chez Gérard.

Lucien et Liliane se marient à Donnelly au printemps de 1936. Lucien prit son "homestead" SW 14-75-20-W5 en décembre 1930. Ensuite il achète la terre d'Adélard Martel et un autre quart de terre d'Omer Lambert. Ils n'ont pas élu domicile à Guy. C'est à Falher qu'ils ont résidé où Lucien a travaillé pour les frères Dening et plus tard pour L.H. Chalifoux. Autant que possible il passe l'été avec ses frères à Guy et cultive son terrain. Après son décès son épouse vend une demi-section à son frère Henri et un autre quart à Joseph, son frère.

Liliane a travaillé au bureau de poste à Donnelly plusieurs années ainsi qu'à Falher.



Lucien et Liliane Johnson, 25 ans de mariage.

Après le décès de Lucien, Liliane travailla à la bibliothèque de l'école de Falher jusqu'à sa dernière maladie.

Tous deux sont inhumés au cimetière de Falher.

Lucien Johnson: n. 01-12-1903 m. 15-04-1936 d.04-08-1962

Liliane Côté: n. 29-06-1908 d. 11-08-1974

* * *

Lucien, the third son of Emile Johnson, was born in Ste. Marie, Salomé. His wife, Liliane, was born in Butte, Montana. She was the daughter of Phillias Côté and Josephine Pelletier. They were married in Donnelly in 1936.

Lucien filed for his homestead in December, 1930. Then he bought two quarters of land one from Adélard Martel, the other from Omer Lambert.

He and his wife chose to live in Falher, instead of Guy. There Lucien worked for the Dening brothers, and a little later for L.H. Chalifoux. He also worked with his brothers in Guy, as often as he could.

After his death his land was bought by his brothers, Henri and Jos.

His wife worked in the Post Office in Donnelly and in Falher for many years. Following the death of her husband she also worked in the library of the Falher school. She passed away the 11th of August 1974.

JOHNSON, RAOUL & DUSSEAU, LOUISE

by Raoul Johnson

I, Raoul, the 12th child of Hervé and Marianne Morin resided in Donnelly throughout my elementary schooling.

My family then moved south of the Little Smoky River to homestead on a section of land where, with my younger brothers I got initiation in farming. I then continued my schooling in Guy for my Junior and part of my Senior High where I made good friends.

At the age of 17, after completing grade 11, I went to work on seismic rigs. I soon became a driller and travelled with the oil company throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan in the summer and the Arctic in the winter.

In 1970, I married Louise Dusseault (daughter of Raymond and Alice Demers), and returned to school to complete my grade 12. We then moved to Edmonton where I worked at the Texaco Refinery and Louise took a secretarial course.

In 1972, on the recommendation of my employer, Electrolux, we relocated in Whitecourt. Needless to say, this was a good move

since it provided me with the opportunity to win a trip for achievement. This prize was an all expense paid trip for two to Portugal.

Meanwhile the nagging urge to return to farming was always present. Therefore, in 1975 we returned to the area to reside in Falher and purchased a section of land with only about 100 acrs cleared.

Since one of Louise's sisters lived in Tunisia, North Africa, we took advantage of the opportunity and vacationed there for three weeks in the spring of 1978. This was an unforgettable experience! On our return we purchased another section of land, NE-18-74-21-5 so that we could possibly one day become full time farmers. Throughout these years my wife has been employed full time and myself also during the winter months.

We built a house and moved to NE-18-74-21-W5 in 1984. Living close to the river we have enjoyed swimming and many picnics there with our friends and neighbors. During the winter I enjoy skating and officiating hockey games. Since November 1985, I have been employed full time by Peace Pipe Line Ltd. in Valleyview. During the spring and fall it is quite hectic trying to farm when one is home only half the time. However, with my wife's help, I have managed to keep my job as well as farm.

As members of the Guy-Whitemud community, we both enjoy living in such a friendly and peaceful area.

* * *

Je demeurais à Donnelly durant mon primaire.

Ma famille déménagea au sud de la Petite Smoky pour ouvrir une section de terre où, avec mes jeunes frères, j'appris le métier de fermier. J'ai ensuite continué l'école à Guy pour la fin de mon primaire et une partie du secondaire où je me fis plusieurs bons amis.

En 1970, j'épousai Louise Dusseault et retournai à l'école pour compléter ma douzième année. Nous avons déménagé à Edmonton où j'ai travaillé à la raffinerie Texaco et Louise a suivi un cours de secrétaire.

Le désir de retourner à la culture était toujours avec moi. Par conséquent en 1975 nous revenions dans la région pour demeurer à Falher et acheter une section de terre avec seulement 100 acres en culture.

Nous bâtîmes une maison et déménagions sur le NE-18-74-21-W5 en 1984. Depuis

novembre 1985 j'ai été employé à plein temps par Peace River Pipe Line Ltd. à Valleyview.

Comme membres de la communauté de Guy-Whitemud, nous jouissons de vivre dans un endroit aussi accueillant et paisible.

KAUPP, EDMUND & LANGER, CAMILLE

by Camille Kaupp

Edmund was born September 27, 1931, the seventh of eleven children, (6 girls, 5 boys) of Clarence and Clara Kaupp. He received most of his formal education in New Dayton, Alta. He was never academically-inclined, but went to school a long time to play on the school baseball and basketball teams. After he quit school, Edmund farmed with his family until our marriage.



From left front row: Anne Grasley (my mother), Genevieve & Tim Kilburn, Camille, Tamie. Back row (left): Daniel, Edmund, Chris.

I am the third of five children of William and Anne (DeVries) Langer. I was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan on February 5, 1938, and grew up on my parents' farm at Riverhurst, Saskatchewan. My father died in June, 1948, leaving Mom to raise the children and do the farming. We farmed together as a family until the fall of 1959. Tim, the middle child and only son, died in March, 1956. Later on Mom remarried, and due to family friction one of my sisters and I left in the fall of 1959 to seek employment in Ontario. While there we enrolled in a government-sponsored nursing assistant program in April, 1960 and graduated (the top two students!) in February, 1961. We returned to Saskatchewan and were employed by the Provincial Hospital in Moose Jaw for a year and a half. To see more of the country we went to work at Raymond Muni-

cipal Hospital. During this time I met Edmund. We were married October 14, 1964 at Riverhurst, Saskatchewan, and made our home with one of Edmund's relatives or another. In May, 1967, we bought an acreage with a home of our own, at last! During the winter of 1969 we bought 143 acres bordering on Cross Coulee Irrigation Dam, and sold the first acreage. We tried irrigating barley on this land, then seeded it all to hay and sanfoin, which we irrigated, and increased our cow-calf operation to 45 cows. In the fall of 1969 we bought Edmund's uncle's farm, which Edmund had rented for a number of years.

Throughout my married years I continued to work as a Registered Nursing Assistant in the Raymond, and later, the Magrath Municipal Hospitals, as well as helping Edmund with the farming operation.

Part of Edmund's inspiration to move here was the lower land prices and availability of land, and more, much more, rainfall in this area. There's always greener pastures on the other side of the fence. Our children were all born in Raymond.

Edmund Kaupp; n.27-09-1931 m.14-10-1964

Camille Langer; n.05-02-1938

CHILDREN:

1. Genevieve; n.12-09-1965 m.16-05-1987
Tim Kilburn; n.25-07-1966
2. Christopher; n.25-07-1966
3. Tamara; n.06-01-1968
4. Daniel; n.13-03-1970

* * *

Après avoir été cultivateur pendant plusieurs années dans le sud de l'Alberta, Edmund décide de venir essayer la culture plus au nord. Les grands vents et la sécheresse sont des désavantages au sud. Aussi, les terres sont plus faciles à acheter ici, les prix sont moindres. C'est pourquoi ils achètent les fermes de Richard Bourgeois en 1981. En 1982, la famille déménage à Guy.

Sa femme, Camille Langer, est une garde-malade et a travaillé plusieurs années dans les hôpitaux dans le sud de la province.

KELLIE, ROY & SHERRINGTON, FLORENCE

by Rita Turcotte

In 1928 when Roy, son of John Kellie and Charlotte Hupp, was five years of age he left Swift Current, Saskatchewan with his parents for High Prairie, Alberta.

They were leaving behind the drought of

southern Saskatchewan which plagued them year after year.

They settled on a farm a mile west of High Prairie. The land they had chosen had very fertile soil but, being an old river bed, it would often flood. It seems as if the river changed course each spring. Once the flood waters reached up to the windows of the house and for three days they were stranded upstairs until the water subsided.

When Roy grew up he helped on the farm for three years, did commercial fishing, and trucked on the Alaska Highway.

When he was old enough he enlisted with the Calgary Highlanders and served overseas. He was wounded while serving in France.

In 1947, he took a homestead S $\frac{1}{2}$ -12-75-20-W5 through Veteran's Affairs and soon had a little home of his own. Shortly after he undertook the task of clearing, piling and breaking the new land.

It wasn't long before a charming little damsel took his fancy and on the first day of spring, March 21, 1948, Roy and Florence, daughter of Alfred and Ida Sherrington of Enilda, were married.

The neighbors were overjoyed in welcoming Florence in their midst. Together Roy and Florence put in endless hours of hard work intermingled with good times at house parties. Florence put in huge gardens each year and picked many pails of wild fruits and vegetables which she canned. Roy was a very good hunter so the family was always well provided with wild meat, some of which Florence also canned.

Over the years Roy accumulated more land and in 1973 he sold a section to Gabe and Claude Turcotte and now resides on N $\frac{1}{2}$ -3-75-19-W5.

Roy is a naturalist and a prospector; he loves nature and is forever learning about its wonders. He has travelled the wilderness of the B.C. mountains on foot learning more about the habits of the wild animals and collecting rocks and gold. He travelled light surviving for weeks on the fish he caught.

Roy isn't afraid of wolves and bears; on his farm wolves still roam about often coming near the buildings.

He is very fond of the little dog he has trained not to hurt the wild animals. Rabbits munch on grass as close as two feet away and birds nest nearby without fear of being disturbed. Roy and Florence had a lovely family of six children. Laurel is married and has a son. She is a taxi cab driver in Edmonton. Dwayne is married and has three children. He is a carpenter and farms in Bashaw, Alberta. Colleen is married and has three children. She and her husband manage a

store in Salmon Arm, British Columbia. Carolyn is married and has three children. She is a secretary-clerk in Edmonton.

Brian is married and has one child. He is an electrician in a coal mine in Hinton, Alberta. Doreen is married and has one child. She's a hairdresser in Edmonton.

* * *

En 1928, quand Roy avait cinq ans, il quitta Swift Current, Saskatchewan avec ses parents pour High Prairie, Alberta. Ils s'installèrent sur une ferme à un mille de High Prairie.

Quand Roy grandit il aida à la ferme et fit de la pêche commerciale pendant trois ans, ensuite du camionnage sur la route de l'Alaska.

Quand il fut d'âge militaire, il s'enrôla dans les Calgary Highlanders et servit outremer. Il fut blessé en service en France.

En 1947, il prit un "homestead" à travers le Ministère des anciens-combattants et bientôt eu un petit foyer bien à lui. Peu après il entreprit de défricher son terrain.

Il rencontra Florence Sherrington et ils s'épousèrent le 21 mars 1948. A travers les années, Roy accumula d'autres terrains et en 1973 il vendit une section à Gabe et Claude Turcotte.

Roy et Florence ont eu une belle famille de six enfants: Laurel, Dwayne, Colleen, Carolyn, Brian et Doreen.

KREBS, DALE & KAREN

by Dale

Dale and Karen Krebs and family moved to the Whitemud area in August, 1979. Dale and his twin brother, Gale, had a dairy farm west of Didsbury, AB. Because of the high land prices in that area they decided that if they wanted to expand they would have to move elsewhere. Dale bought seven quarters from Bill Gardner (SW 25-74-23-W5) who has now moved to Calgary, AB. The land differs from farmland at Didsbury as it is much harder to pull the machinery. There is less rain in the spring and summer but more in the fall. One of the first things bought was a grain dryer. The yield is lower but the input is about the same. We have cleared about 160 acres of bush. Before the bush was cleared on the home quarter it was nice to see deer and moose making their way through the yard.

Dale runs a grain farm and logs in the winter. Karen teaches school in Valleyview. We have two children, Greg and Ryan, who attend school in Valleyview.

Dale: n.14-03-1947

m.24-08-1968

Karen: n.26-04-1947

CHILDREN:

1. Greg: n.27-11-1972

2. Ryan: n.18-01-1978

KRZEMINSKI, FRANK

by Mildred

Frank Krzeminski was born in Poland. His parents had an onion farm, where he grew up, and later on helped with the work as a young lad. One day while he was delivering a load of onions to the depot with his team of horses he fell asleep on the wagon; the horses kept right on going. When he awoke he didn't know where he was. He finally got his bearings and headed for the supply depot, to find out that it was too late and it was already closed. He spent the night in that village, and returned home the next day feeling rather foolish. His father was angry with him and let him know his feelings, as he wondered why it took two days to do a one day job.



Frank Krzeminski.

One day his father heard Canada was accepting immigrants and so he decided that Frank should be sent there. After all necessary arrangements were made, his father gave him a boat ticket, some travelling money and a gold watch. They bid farewell and Frank was on his way to Canada. He landed in Halifax, Canada, in 1927, a few weeks later. He went to northern Ontario where he was employed in a lumber camp. He quit that job soon after because he just couldn't see himself cutting wood and lumber for the rest of his life. His pay cheque was \$40.00 a month at the time.

He moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba and found a job with the CNR, which was building a new rail line at the time. One day he seriously injured his arm, and as a result his job was over once more. He went to Saskatchewan for a while and later moved on to Edmonton. He heard that the

Provincial Government was giving out homestead lands. So he decided to take a lease SE 18-75-21-W5 in the Guy area.

He then moved there and lived with his cousins who lived near by. He then proceeded to build himself a house and clear land. He also worked for other more established farmers in the area. He always considered himself very lucky, that he had good friends and neighbors. He eventually earned a good team of horses which he used for farm work and transportation for several years.



Frank & Josefa beside their new home.

In 1949 he managed to purchase his first "International truck", which was another step forward. He also started writing letters to a Polish widow, Josefa Anuszewski in Hamburg, Germany. After a few years of correspondence, Josefa decided to come to Canada, bringing one of her sons, Cecil, with her. They came by boat and the trip took two weeks; they both recalled getting very seasick after going through an Atlantic storm.

They landed in Halifax, N.S. November 1951. They travelled by train all the way to Donnelly which took approximately 10 days more and were met by Frank at the station in his International truck. The weather was very cold and they had never seen so much snow in all their lives. Having been told before they left Germany that they were going to a better country and that everything was much better than Germany; too bad that the weather was never discussed.

Josefa and Frank were married shortly after her arrival to Canada. They spent the long winter nights putting wood in the airtight heater to keep

from freezing and were grateful to see spring come.

After the crops were seeded, Frank began building a new house. By fall the house was completed and things were comfortable. Josefa's son (Cecil) left the Krzeminski farmstead and went out to work, occasionally returning to help out with seeding and harvesting for several years.

In 1956 the Krzeminski sponsored Josefa's other son Lucien to come to Canada. He didn't stay on the farm very much having jobs in different areas most of the time.

In 1961 the Krzeminski's once more sponsored Josefa's married daughter, Anna, and husband Frank Ogrodniczuk and two children to come to Canada. Frank Krzeminski rented out his farm to the Ogrodniczuk family due to ill health that year.

Mrs. Krzeminski had a lot more time from then on for gardening and was known for her beautiful flowers. Many neighbors and friends stopped by quite often to chat and see them.

In September 1966, Frank passed away leaving the farm to Josefa. Josefa continued farming with the help of her sons until she sold the farm and moved to Peace River. Josefa passed away in Peace River October 20, 1982.

* * *

Frank est né en Pologne et fut élevé sur une ferme où on récoltait les oignons. Son père décida de l'envoyer au Canada lorsqu'il apprit qu'on y acceptait des immigrants. Il lui donna son billet de bateau, de l'argent et une montre en or.

Rendu au Canada, Frank travailla dans le bois en Ontario et à la construction de la voie pour le chemin de fer CNR en Sask. Il s'est ensuite rendu à Edmonton et décida de prendre un "homestead" SE-18-75-21-W5 à Guy. Il demeura quelque temps avec des cousins ensuite il s'est construit une maison de bois rond et a ouvert son terrain avec l'aide de ses chevaux. En 1949, il s'est acheté un camion International.

Il se mit à correspondre avec une veuve polonaise, Josefa Anuszewski, qui vivait en Allemagne. Après quelques années, elle décida de venir au Canada. Frank et Josefa se sont mariés peu de temps après. Frank bâtit une maison neuve qui était beaucoup plus confortable. Ils ont fait venir Lucien, le deuxième fils de Josefa, en 1956. En 1961, ils ont fait venir la fille mariée de Josefa, Anna, son mari Frank Ogrodniczuk et leurs deux enfants.

En 1966 Frank est mort et Josefa continua de

cultiver la ferme avec ses garçons. Elle vendit la ferme et déménagea à Peace River où elle mourut le 20 octobre 1982.

LABBE, EDMOND & GAUCHER, STELLA

as told to Roderick (Bud) Caron by Stella Labbé

Edmond was born in Morinville, Alberta., on March 2, 1903 the oldest son of Edmond Labbé and Florida Turgeon. He went to school in Morinville and the Sacred Heart School in Edmonton.

In 1924-25 he went to work for a railway Co. at Milo, AB. In 1926 or 1927 he filed for a homestead, NE 26-76-21-5 in the Guy area. The first three winters he worked at the sawmill of Philias Maisonneuve.

In 1930 he moved to his homestead at Guy and built a shack 26' X 18' with the help of his brother. They also built granaries and a shed.

On February 27, 1933 Edmond married Stella Gaucher, daughter of Alfred Gaucher and Athala Bonneau. She was born January 9, 1909 at Bruxelles, Manitoba where she also received her education. She had come to Falher, AB in 1928 with her parents. Like many other young women of the time she worked as a housekeeper for various families, amongst them were the J.B. Beland and Jos. Fillion families.

In 1943 they went to Faust where they worked for McRae Lumber. Then the following year Edmond worked for Mr. Brisson at his hotel

in Donnelly, and for Bill Desnoyers, his wife's uncle. In November 25, 1947, the family moved to Andre Boulet's farm and Edmond went to work for Honoré Maisonneuve. In 1959 they bought land from Donat Beaupré in McLennan where they moved again with their family. In 1962 Edmond sold his land in Guy to Alfred Nichol.

Edmond and Stella celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1983 in McLennan with all their children.

Edmond passed away in the McLennan Hospital on May 15, 1986 at the age of 83.

Stella still lives on the farm, just out of McLennan.

Edmond Labbé; n.02-03-1903 m.27-02-1933 d. 15-05-1986

Stella Gaucher; n.09-01-1909

CHILDREN:

1. Roland; n.14-12-1933 m.11-10-1975
Jeannine Bisson. They have two children; Rachel and Claude.
2. Hector; n.11-11-1935 m.12-04-1958
Julienne Richer; They have one daughter; Cecile
3. Lucien; n.05-05-1939 m.06-04-1961
Pierrette Girard. Their children; Denis, Collette, Roger and Suzanne.
4. Yvonne; n.14-07-1943 m.29-04-1963
George Audet. They have two children; Doris and Louise.

* * *

Edmond est né à Morinville, AB., le 2 mars 1903, fils aîné de Edmond Labbé et Florida Turgeon. Il fit ses études à Morinville et à l'école du Sacré-Coeur à Edmonton.

En 1926 ou 27 il prit un "homestead", le NE-26-76-21-W5 à Guy. Les trois premières années, il travailla au moulin à scie de Philias Maisonneuve et s'y bâtit un shack.

Le 27 février 1933, il épousa Stella Gaucher, fille de Alfred Gaucher et Athala Bonneau, née le 9 janvier 1909 à Bruxelles, Manitoba, où elle fit aussi ses études. En 1928 elle arriva à Falher avec ses parents. Jeune fille, elle travailla comme ménagère pour plusieurs familles, entre autres chez J.B. Béland et chez Jos Fillion.

De 1943 à 1947, Edmond alla travailler ici et là. Puis en novembre 1947 il déménagea sur la ferme d'André Boulet à Donnelly, et commença à travailler pour Honoré Maisonneuve. En 1959, il acheta du terrain de Donat Beaupré à McLennan et y déménagea sa famille. Il vendit sa terre à Guy à Alfred Nichol en 1962.

Edmond et Stella ont célébré leur 50ième



R.1 Edmond & Stella Labbé. R.2 Roland, Hector, Lucien, Yvonne.

anniversaire de mariage en 1983 à McLennan. Edmond mourut à l'hôpital de McLennan le 15 mai 1986 à l'âge de 83 ans. Stella demeure encore sur la ferme à McLennan.

LACHAINE, ROLLAND

par Eva Johnson

Rolland qui venait de la province de Québec est arrivé à Guy en 1929. Il prit un "homestead" SE ¼ 75-21-W5. Comme tous les jeunes de son temps, il doit travailler chez d'autres fermiers afin d'obtenir des revenus pour défricher son terrain. Il est décédé en 1935 à l'hôpital de McLennan après une courte maladie. Avant de mourir, il donne sa terre à Rolland Bastien. M. Sylvio Villeneuve est témoin de ce testament.

* * *

Rolland arrived in Guy from the province of Québec in 1929. He took a homestead. Like all the young men in those days he had to work elsewhere in order to earn some money to help clear his land. After a short illness he died at the McLennan hospital in 1935. Before dying he had bequeathed his land to Rolland Bastien. Mr. Sylvio Villeneuve was a witness to this testament.

LACHANCE, FORTUNAT & BRISSON, AMANDA

Raconté par Fortunat à Cécile Marcoux

Fortunat Lachance, fils d'Eloi Lachance et de Valérie Nollet est né le 14 juin 1900 à Ste-Justine, P.Q.

En 1922 je me suis marié une première fois à Maria Bourdon avec qui j'ai eu trois enfants: Armande, Lorette et Fernand. Peu après la naissance de Fernand, Maria est décédée. En octobre 1927 je me suis remarié avec Amanda Brisson, fille de Jean Brisson et d'Adeline Asselin, et nous avons eu seize enfants.

A Opatika, Ontario, j'occupais quelques arpents de terrain et je travaillais aussi dans le bois. Je bûchais, "skiddais" de la pitoune, charroyais le bois, travaillais sur la chaîne, c'est-à-dire prendre la pitoune de la rivière pour l'embarquer sur les chars qui se rendaient au moulin à scie. Mais en 1943, la demande pour le bois baisse et le travail devient de plus en plus rare.

Il y avait un dénommé, Armand Gagné qui voulait s'acheter du terrain à Opatika mais à cause des circonstances il n'avait pas pu. Il avait alors communiqué avec le Curé Gagnon de Guy qui l'encourage de venir à Guy. Je décide ainsi de me joindre aux quatre autres familles.



Demeure des Lachance.

Un wagon de train nous coûte 200,00 \$ pour les bagages et tant de la tête pour les passagers dans un autre wagon (moins pour les plus jeunes). Nous étions dix personnes dans notre famille, le bébé, Germain, avait seulement cinq mois. Afin de sauver quelques sous, nous avons dit à nos enfants de se rajeunir d'un an puisqu'une de nos plus jeune était décédée plus tôt. Chemin faisant les jeunes se demandaient quel était leur âge.

Le 3 octobre 1943, nous arrivions à la gare de Donnelly où Jules Bourgeois nous attendait avec un gros camion. On nous conduisit ensuite chez Aurèle Benoit où le Curé nous attendait pour chanter la messe car c'était dimanche. Après la messe nous avons rencontré les nouveaux voisins en partageant la nourriture qu'ils avaient préparée. Durant l'après-midi les adultes sont allés faire un tour pour regarder le terrain se rendant ainsi chez Aurèle Lambert. Quelques jours plus tard, j'ai décidé d'acheter le terrain d'Aurèle Benoit avec la maison pour deux milles dollars payés tant par année.

Mon premier hiver par ici je l'ai passé au chantier de McRae à Faust, où Olivier Thibault était le contremaître. Durant mon premier été, j'ai travaillé pour Aurèle Benoit à finir l'Hôtel Spaulding de High Prairie. Ma première récolte n'a pas été bien encourageante car après avoir payé quatre-vingt dollars de battage à Paul Gagnon il me restait seulement vingt dollars dans mes poches pour mettre le pain sur la table pour huit enfants.

Mon deuxième été était un peu mieux puisque dans vingt acres de luzerne j'avais obtenu deux milles dollars. En plus de ça, cet été-là j'avais travaillé pour M. Fleury à réparer une bâtisse pour les Religieuses "Samaritaines" de Falher. Je cassais le ciment à la hache pour



Fortunat & Nelson Lachance prêt pour aller "skidder".

pouvoir poser les portes. Cela en a pris des coups de haches mais j'en suis venu à bout!

J'ai aussi construit la maison et l'écurie d'Adélarde Rouleau. Mme Rouleau m'avait demandé de lui construire des garde-robes en deux pouces carrés. J'étais assez habile mais je n'avais pas beaucoup d'outils; un marteau, une équerre et un niveau.

En 1973, nous avons vendu notre terre à Léonce Pelletier pour nous retirer à Falher dans une petite maison que nous avions achetée. Durant l'hiver 1984, j'ai souffert d'une attaque d'apoplexie et j'ai dû entrer au Foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan où je demeure encore.

Fortunat Lachance: n. 14-06-1900 1m. 22-08-1922

1m.: Maria Bourdon: d. 1926

ENFANTS:

1- Armande: n. 22-09-1923. Mariée et elle a 4 enfants.

2- Laurette: n. 21-01-1925. Mariée et elle a 5 enfants.

3- Fernand: n. 09-06-1926

2m.: Amanda Brisson: n. 12-01-1911 m. 12-10-1927

ENFANTS:

1- Thérèse: n. 16-08-1928 m. 28-10-1950 d. 09-08-1979

Fernand Drouin: n. 22-11-1928 (voir Drouin, Fernand)

2- Benoît: n. 31-03-1930. Il demeure à Falher.

3- Aimé-Rose: n. 04-11-1931. Religieuse Sr de Ste-Croix à St-Boniface, Manitoba.

4- Anita: n. 16-01-1933 m. 20-01-1953

Delphé Laurin: n. 04-11-1931

Ils ont huit enfants. Anita travaille à l'hôpital de McLennan. Ils demeurent à McLennan.

5- Clarence: n. 23-09-1934

6- Jacqueline: n. 28-02-1936 m. 05-07-1969

Allan Van Auderheage: n. 28-02-1936

Ils ont quatre enfants. Jacqueline est retournée dans l'Est où elle tient un magasin-restaurant.

7- Nelson: n. 13-08-1938 m. 07-08-1976

Suzanne Gagnon: n. 14-05-1948. (voir Lachance, Nelson)

8- Gaétane: n. 11-04-1940 d. -07-1940

9- Gaétane: n. 16-07-1941 m. 16-07-1966

Claude Boucher. *Ils ont deux enfants. Ils demeurent et travaillent à Edmonton.*

10- Germain: n. 14-05-1943

Il est infirmier à l'hôpital Royal Alexandra à Edmonton.

11- Romain: n. 08-05-1945 m. 11-07-1970

Phyllis Long: n. 13-09-1947. *Ils ont trois enfants: Gerald, Nicole et Roussel.*

Romain est soudeur à pression et demeure à Edmonton. Il pris un "homestead" W¹/₂-09-75-19 W5.

12- Claudette: n. 05-05-1947 m. 10-10-1970

Paulin (Bob) Lachance

Ils ont deux enfants Donald et Michel. Claudette partit de Guy après sa 12ième année pour Ottawa où elle prit un cour d'infirmière. Elle demeure à Hamilton, Ontario.

13- Lorraine: n. 25-08-1948 m. 19-05-1973

Ferdinando (Fred) Mastroianni. *Trois enfants: Benjamin, Caroline et Marianne. Après sa 12ième année à Guy, Lorraine partit pour Ottawa suivre un cour d'infirmière. Elle habite maintenant à Binbrook, Ontario.*

14- André: n. 24-12-1951

Il est fermier à Guy.

15- Françoise: n. 17-02-1953 m. 19-05-1973

David Solomon

a) Shelley: n. 20-12-1978

Françoise est secrétaire légale et demeure à Edmonton.

16- Mariette: n. 06-12-1954 m.

André Giroux

a) Normand: 23-09-1975

b) Georges: n. 09-04-1978

Ils demeurent à Edson.

* * *

Fortunat, son of Eloi Lachance and Valerie

Nollet was born on June 14, 1900 at St. Justine, P.Q.

His first wife, Marie Bourdon, whom he married in 1922, died soon after Fernand's birth. In October 1927, he married Amanda Brisson, daughter of Jean Brisson and Adeline Asselin. The family lived in Opasatika, Ont. where Fortunat owned a few acres of land and worked in the bush falling trees, skidding and hauling the logs to the river to be loaded onto cars and taken to the lumber mill. In 1943 the demand for wood dropped and it became difficult to find work.

He met Armand Gagne who had corresponded with Father Gagnon of Guy who encouraged him to move there. Fortunat decided to join the group of four families who loaded their belongings in a boxcar, while their families came together in another car. They arrived at the Donnelly train station on October 3, 1943 and were met there by Jules Bourgeois in his big truck and taken to Guy to a parish get-together. A few days later, Fortunat bought Aurele Benoit's house and land.

His first winter was spent at the McRae saw-mill at Faust and the first summer was spent working at finishing the Spaulding Hotel in High Prairie, with Aurele Benoit. His first crop was not very encouraging. After paying \$80.00 to Paul Gagnon for threshing he had twenty dollars left in his pocket. But the second summer was much better as he made two thousand dollars with twenty acres of alfalfa.

In 1973, he sold his land to Leonce Pelletier and he and his wife retired in a small home in Falher. In the winter of 1984, Fortunat suffered a stroke and entered Notre Dame du Lac Nursing Home in McLennan where he still resides.

LACHANCE, NELSON & GAGNON, SUZANNE

par Suzanne

Nelson Lachance, fils de Fortunat et Amanda Brisson, né à Opasatika, Ontario, arrive à Guy avec sa famille à l'âge de cinq ans. Encore enfant il doit aider aux travaux de la ferme: entrer le bois de chauffage, soigner et traire les vaches. Nelson avec l'aide de sa soeur, Jacqueline, est concierge à l'école Benoit pendant cinq ans.

Après sa neuvième année de classe Nelson travaille aux chantiers pendant vingt-quatre hivers débutant à la scierie de M. Raoul Lambert en 1956. Il reçoit 1,00 \$ de l'heure et doit payer 2,00 \$ par jour pour sa pension. Eventuellement il prend de l'expérience dans l'opération d'une chenille mécanique.

Comme travail d'été, une fois les semences



R.1 Henri, Doris, Serge. R.2 Nelson, Clément, Suzanne Lachance.

terminées, il se trouve du travail dans la région. Il se souvient des étés passés à l'entretien de la plage Winagami et de ceux passés chez les fermiers Aldéo Major et Paul-Émile Maisonneuve.

En 1963 Nelson obtient un "homestead lease" qu'il ouvre lui-même petit à petit. La loi exige que le fermier soit résidant sur son terrain ou à l'intérieur d'un rayon de cinq milles. C'est pourquoi Nelson demeure chez sa soeur et son beau-frère Thérèse et Fernand Drouin.

Il achète en 1973 une chenille mécanique en société avec Fernand et les hivers aux chantiers deviennent plus rémunérateurs.

Nelson rencontre Suzanne Gagnon, fille de Paul et d'Alberta Desfossés pendant l'été 1975.

"J'étais revenu dans la région pour enseigner à l'école G.P. Vanier de Donnelly au niveau de la septième, huitième et neuvième années.

Mes douze années d'études terminées à l'école Langlois je m'étais inscrite à la Faculté d'Éducation à Edmonton et j'ai obtenu mon Bachelier en Éducation. Le 30 avril 1969, je commençais ma carrière d'institutrice à l'école élémentaire Notre Dame de Bonnyville. J'y suis demeuré six ans. Pendant ces années d'étudiante et de jeune institutrice j'ai beaucoup joui de la participation aux chorales du Collège St-Jean, des "67 de Bonnyville et des "Semeurs de Joie" de la Rivière La Paix.

Après notre mariage, le 7 août 1976, nous avons demeuré à Donnelly où j'enseignais. Notre ambition était de nous installer sur notre ferme aussitôt que nos finances le permettraient. Notre rêve s'est réalisé en 1977. Depuis ce temps-là je voyage de la ferme à Donnelly, 55

nilles aller et retour, tous les jours pour enseigner. C'est grâce à ma mère si je puis continuer ma carrière car elle est gardienne de nos jeunes enfants pendant mon absence du foyer.

Nelson Lachance: n. 13-08-1938 m. 07-08-1976

Suzanne Gagnon: n. 14-05-1948

ENFANTS:

1- Henri: n. 10-10-1977

2- Serge: n. 10-02-1979

3- Doris: n. 25-04-1981

4- Clément: n. 12-01-1984

* * *

Nelson, son of Fortunat and Amanda Brisson, was born in Opasatika, Ontario and arrived in Guy with his family at the age of five years.

In 1956 after nine years of schooling, Nelson worked in lumber camps for 24 winters. Eventually he learned how to operate a "cat".

In summer, after seeding he found work at Winagami Lake and on the farms of Aldeo Major or Paul Emile Maisonneuve.

In 1963, he obtained a homestead lease which he cleared himself. In 1973 he and Fernand Drouin bought a "cat" to work in the bush.

Suzanne, daughter of Paul and Alberta Desfossé attended Langlois School then completed her B.Ed. She then taught for six years at Notre Dame School in Bonnyville. In 1973 she started teaching at G.P. Vanier in Donnelly at the Junior High level, at which time she and Nelson became acquainted and later married.

After living one year in Donnelly, they moved on to the farm. Suzanne continues to teach at G.P. Vanier, travelling every day from the farm, a round trip of 55 miles.

LACOURSE, DONAT & CORMIER, ANITA

by the family

Donat was born on April 12, 1884 in Gentilly, Quebec. His wife, Anita Cormier, was born on August 1, 1895 in Ste Angèle de Laval, Quebec.

They were married on February 19, 1917 in Anita's home- town and moved to Biggar, Saskatchewan. They farmed for seven years. Their first three children, Paul, Jeanne, and Irene were born here.

Drought and sandy soil forced them to move to Fannystelle, Manitoba where they rented land. They had farmed for one year when Mariette was born.

Their next home was in Ste Angèle, Quebec, where Donat moved logs down the St Lawrence Seaway.

From there they moved to Trois-Rivières, Quebec for one year. His job in the paper mill

Donat Lacourse.



allowed Donat to obtain a similar job in Cap de la Madeleine, Quebec. They stayed for seven years, adding Emile & Aline to their family.

The final move was in 1931 to Falher, Alberta. They completed their family with the birth of Rose and Joseph. They lived in a log cabin on a homestead and bought more land for \$1000.00.



Mariette Boisvert, Aline Veraart, Emile, Paul, Joseph Lacourse, Rose Bouchard, Irène Veraart.

Donat farmed until his death, March 31, 1947.

Anita lived on the farm until she died, April 6, 1981.

The boys farmed until the house and land were sold.

Donat Lacourse; b.12-04-1884 m.19-02-1917 d.31-03-1947.

Anita Cormier; b.01-08-1895 d.06-04-1981.

CHILDREN:

1. Paul; b.03-01-1918 m.14-07-1951

Carmen Lacroix; b.20-04-1927

Children: Leo, Roger, Norman (d.22-05-1977), André (d.09-07-1970), Linda, David and Claude.



Mrs. Donat Lacourse.

2. Jeanne; b.30-03-1919 m.06-10-1942 d.03-10-1970
Ernest Nicolet; b.12-11-1906
Children: Gilbert, Rene, Denise, Louise, Jean, Gérard, Marcel (d.21-04-1973), Nicole and Réal.
3. Irene; b.30-01-1922 m.11-01-1950
Edward Veraart; b.01-08-1950
They have two children: Lorraine and Richard.
4. Mariette; b.01-09-1923 m.26-11-1942
Vigor Boisvert; b.10-03-1913 d.06-09-1983.
They have five children: Vivian, Jeannette (d.23-08-1974), Carmen, Emile and Annette.
5. Emile; b.12-09-1925 m.12-07-1955.
Jeannine Lanctot; b.05-05-1939. d.12-07-1970.
They have three children: Daniel (d.13-01-1957), Diane and Dorine.
6. Aline; b.23-03-1929 m.26-03-1951.
Robert Veraart; b.10-05-1925 d.25-06-1980.
They have six children: Denis, Eveline, Raymond, Marcel, Stanley and Louise.
7. Rose; b.29-12-1930 m.10-02-1950.
Joe Bouchard; b.28-04-1924.
They have eight children: Roger, Jeanne, Paul, Gérard, Roland, Joanne, Denis and Suzanne.
8. Joseph; b.13-01-1934 m.
Kathy Leblanc; b.17-11-1935.

* * *

Donat est né à Gentilly, Québec, le 12 avril 1884. Il maria Anita Cormier le 19 février 1917, à Ste-Angèle de Laval, Québec place natale d'Anita. C'est à Biggar, Saskatchewan, que le jeune couple s'établit et y vécut pendant sept ans. La sécheresse força la famille à aller à Fannys-

telle, Manitoba pour un an. De là ils retournèrent au Québec pour quelques temps.

En 1931 ce fut le départ pour l'ouest. C'est à Guy qu'ils demeurèrent sur leur ferme, jusqu'à la mort de Donat le 31 mars 1947. Anita vécut sur la ferme jusqu'à sa mort, le 6 avril 1981.

LACOURSE, EUDORE & CYRENNE, CECILE

by Lily Chailler

Originating from Becancour, Quebec, my grand-dad, Ferdinand Lacourse, was a carpenter who travelled with the family to several places. He came to Fannystelle, Manitoba; from there they moved to Crookston, Minnesota. He then spent several years in Kenora, Ontario where my dad, Eudore, and uncle Oscar and Donat worked in the lumber mills. They went on to Biggar, Saskatchewan where they bought land they cultivated for some time. As this was a very windy place, they had to tie lines from the barn to the house in order not to get lost when there were storms. In summer it was sand and dust, in winter, blizzards. My dad and mom moved back to Manitoba. On November 27, 1928 we arrived in Falher, Alberta. My dad rented Jack Cooper's ½ section NE 34-76-21-W5 for a couple of years. Then he bought a ½ section, NE and NW-21-76-21-W5. My dad came here with all his stock and farm implements. After a while he lost most of his horses of swamp fever.



R.1 Emile, Jean, Marcel. R.2 Donat, Cécile et Eudore, et Rosaire.

Money was scarce in those days. Mother made her soap to launder, made pork sausage and blood sausage when they butchered hogs, smoked her pork for our bacon, made large gardens, sewed shirts for the boys and dad out of flour bags which she dyed in dark colors. Wardrobes were not too plentiful! You had one dress for good wear and one for everyday. The roads from Falher to our place, once passed Mr. Sylvio Villeneuve, were simply awful. Mud holes were covered with poles and a little bit of dirt. I remember it was quite an event for us kids to go to McLennan. We left early in the morning and came back in late afternoon. Many a time my two oldest brothers and myself walked to town, each with a case of quart jars filled with strawberries we had picked the day before to sell for extra cash. Then if we were lucky we'd get a ride back, if not, we'd lug the groceries we had purchased, still on foot.



Cécile et sa fille Lily.

We went to school at Ballater No.1. Our homework was done in the light of coal oil lamps and we walked to and from school, winter and summer. In the spring we took our shoes off to cross water running on the road. Once in a while we had to wait till the bears had gone across the road so we could keep on.

We attended mass at Mr. Omer Boisvert's house once a month. Later we had mass at St. Louis de Ballater. Then we went to church at Guy. From Mr. Jasmin's home, there was just a

trail and if you weren't careful, once in a while the wagon wheels would hit a stump and we'd get quite a jolt. Once at church there was a barn for the horses and another building where we ate our lunch before going back home.

My brothers also had land near where dad lived. Rosaire had SE 14-76-21 but later moved to New Fish Creek. Jean resided on NW-20-76-21-W5. Marcel resided on NW-7-76-21-W5. Later Jean and family moved to Peace River then to Edmonton. Marcel still stays in New Fish Creek but not on the farm. Rosaire now resides in McLennan.

Ferdinand Lacourse: d. 17-05-1945 at the age of 91 at White- mud Creek.

Alphonsine Cyrenne: d. 10-10-1912 in Harris, Saskatchewan. They had five children: Donat, Jeanne, Eudore, Oscar and Eloi.

Eudore Lacourse: n. 18-04-1890 d. 13-11-1973

Cécile Cyrenne: n. 08-12-1893 d. 25-04-1963

CHILDREN:

1) Lily: n. 12-01-1918 in Biggar, Saskatchewan m. 23-02-1943

Alexandre Chailler: n. 08-07-1908

a) Denis: n. 21-08-1953 Bachelor

b) Louise: n. 16-12-1955 m. 16-06-1979

Richard Marceau. They have two daughters: Suzanne and Jeannette.

2) Rosaire: n. 08-11-1920 at Biggar Saskatchewan. Bachelor

3) Jean: n. 17-04-1922 at Biggar Sask. m. 22-05-1943

Gabrielle Mailhot

a) Jeanette: n. 15-04-1944 m. 29-12-1962 Wesley Jones. Together they have one daughter, Bridgette.

b) Maurice: n. 30-08-1946 m. 16-04-1966 Doreen Duperron. They have four children: Wendy, Jeannette, Anna Marie, and Vern.

c) Donald: n. 12-11-1961 Bachelor

4) Marcel: n. 10-03-1924 m. 22-12-1954

Germaine Fournier

* * *

Le 27 novembre, nous arrivions à Falher après avoir résidé tantôt au Manitoba, Minnèsota, Ontario, tantôt en Saskatchewan et de nouveau au Manitoba. Mon père loua la demi-section de Jack Cooper et acheta une autre demie. Il avait amené tout son bétail et ses instruments aratoires. Peu à peu il perdit ses chevaux de la fièvre.

L'argent était rare. Maman faisait son savon, de la saucisse de porc et du boudin quand il faisait boucherie; elle fumait le porc,

semaït de grands jardins, cousait des chemises pour les garçons et papa dans des sacs de farine qu'elle teignait. Nous n'avions qu'une robe propre et une autre pour la semaine.

Souvent mes deux frères aînés et moi allions au village vendre des fraises cueillies la veille.

Nous sommes allés à l'école de Ballater no. 1.

Nous allions à la messe chez M. Omer Boisvert une fois par mois. Plus tard nous avions la messe à St-Louis de Ballater, et ensuite à Guy. À l'église il y avait une écurie et un autre bâtiment où nous pouvions manger notre goûter avant de revenir.

Jean et sa famille sont à Edmonton. Marcel demeure à New Fish Creek. Rosaire demeure à McLennan.

LAFLEUR, LEOPOLD & GRENIER, ANGELINE

par Denise et Roland

Léopold Lafleur, fils de Moïse Lafleur et d'Emilia Legault, est né le 16 février 1911, à l'Ascension, comté Labelle, Québec. Il était le cinquième d'une famille de treize.

Il fréquenta l'école de campagne jusqu'à l'âge de douze ans et ensuite le Collège et le Noviciat des Frères des Ecoles Chrétiennes. Il quitta l'école à l'âge de quinze ans.

En 1927, la famille Lafleur déménagea à Amos, en Abitibi et pendant deux ans et demi Léopold travailla dans une boulangerie.

Angéline Grenier, née le 7 juillet 1914, à St-Germain de Grantham, Québec, était la fille d'Emmanuel Grenier et de Georgianna Verville. Elle était la huitième d'une famille de neuf.

Pour Angéline, ses années d'école furent très difficiles. Elle fréquenta une dizaine d'écoles dû au métier de son père qui l'obligeait à de nombreux déménagements et qui finalement fit aboutir la famille Grenier à Opatatika en

Ontario. C'est là qu'Angéline travailla dans les maisons privées de M. Lachance et de M. Beau-doin.

Depuis le 2 novembre 1929, la famille Lafleur était déjà installée à Opatatika où Léopold travaillait à couper du bois pour faire du papier (de la pitoune). Léopold et Angéline se fréquentèrent et après six mois, se marièrent le 9 janvier 1935. Leur mariage fut béni par l'Abbé Aimé Gagné à six heures du matin dans la chapelle du presbytère. La veillée eut lieu chez M. Moïse Lafleur et Léopold avait lui-même fait leur gâteau de noce. Leur première demeure fut à cinq milles du petit village d'Opatatika où sont nés six enfants. Durant ce temps, ils subirent une dure épreuve. À cause d'un empoisonnement du sang, Léopold perdit la vue et paralysa ses deux jambes pendant environ quarante jours. En septembre 1943, ils prirent la décision de déménager dans l'Ouest Canadien. Quatre autres familles les accompagnaient: la famille de son père, Moïse Lafleur, les familles Armand Gagné, Rosario Blais et Fortunat Lachance. Cette année-là, le billet de colonisation, à prix réduit, était de 1200,00 \$ pour les cinq familles. Ils étaient accompagnés jusqu'à Edmonton, de M. Paul Boutet, colonisateur. En train, ils étaient trente-cinq personnes dans un wagon spécial, à part d'autres wagons pour le ménage.

C'est dimanche, le trois octobre 1943, qu'ils arrivent à Donnelly, Alberta. L'Abbé Paul Gagnon et M. Jules Bourgeois étaient à la gare pour les recevoir. Ils se dirigent vers la paroisse de Guy. Chemin faisant, ils s'arrêtent chez M. Aurèle Benoit où la messe est célébrée. De là ils se dirigent chez M. Ernest Gosselin, qui, pendant trois mois, leur prête un abri, ce qui leur donne la chance d'appliquer pour obtenir un "home-stead" (le sud-est de la 13-76-21), deux milles au nord du village de Guy où ils bâtissent leur première maison de 16 pieds x 24 pieds.

En 1951, Léopold achète la terre (SO 31-75-20) de son père, Moïse, au sud de Guy où il déménage la maison. Pendant ses années comme fermier, il doit travailler au chantier en hiver pour aider à faire vivre sa famille. Aussi, durant ce temps, il s'est toujours intéressé aux activités communautaires: par exemple, douze années de Lacordaire, membre de l'A.C.F.A., marguillier et pendant les années 1949-50, il était en charge du chauffage du couvent de Guy, de l'église et du presbytère.

Entre parenthèse, ce ne fut qu'en 1957, qu'Angéline, accompagnée de son époux, est retournée pour la première fois dans sa province natale pour y visiter sa soeur, ses frères et autres parents qu'elle n'avait pas vus depuis



Mme Angéline Lafleur avec bébé Denise, Pauline, Antoinette, Réginald, Germain, Roland, Jacques, Marcel, Murielle.



R.1 Denise, Thérèse, Angéline, Léopold, Rita, Gisèle. R.2 André, Marcel, Réginald, Antoinette, Pierrette, Pauline, Germain, Roland, Jacques. Inset: Murielle.

quinze ans. A part sa propre famille, elle n'avait personne dans l'Ouest.

Dans les premières années de soixante, Léopold décide de louer ses terres et de travailler à plein temps pour la Division scolaire de High Prairie. En 1961, en plus de son emploi, il se bâtit une maison sur la terre SW 13-76-21 au nord de Guy sur la route numéro deux.

Ces parents courageux ont su pendant une période de trois ans et demi, prendre soin, en plus de leurs enfants de nombreux enfants à la charge du Bien-Etre Social.

Pendant ces années, en 1966, ils vendent leurs biens à Guy et déménagent en Colombie-Britannique près de Vancouver avec leurs six derniers enfants. Leur goût d'aventure les amène ensuite à Yellowknife, T.N.O., pour un an. Là envahis de froid et de noirceur, remplis de nostalgie pour leurs premières années dans l'Ouest, ils reviennent de nouveau dans la région de la Rivière La Paix et s'achètent une maison à Falber. En 1972, Léopold retourne travailler, à temps partiel, pour la Division Scolaire de High Prairie. Ceci dure deux ans.

Après une vie si mouvementée, Léopold et Angéline prennent leurs retraites en 1974,

demeurant à Falber jusqu'en octobre 1982. L'ennui pour leurs enfants les motivent à déménager à Grande Prairie. Maintenant, Léopold et Angéline, ce couple si aventurier et courageux, réside à Wild Rose Manor, logis luxueux et bien mérité pour des âmes si généreuses.



Léopold, Moïse, Germain, Michel; 4 générations.

Léopold Lafleur: n.16-02-1911 m.09-01-1935

Angéline Grenier: n.07-07-1914

ENFANTS:

- 1- *Pauline: n.05-09-1936 m.29-12-1953 à Guy.
Howard Halldorson. Quatre enfants: Diane, Johnny, Chris et Sandy.*
- 2- *Antoinette: n.12-02-1938 m.09-08-1956
Pierre Cloutier. Six enfants: Claire, Lucille, Laurette, Noëlla, Julien et Guy.*
- 3- *Reginald: n.24-04-1939 m.24-10-1964
Pauline Roy. Un enfant Amanda.
2m: 17-09-1974, Elsa Rose. Enfants: Lynn, Noël et Esther.*
- 4- *Germain: n.31-10-1940 m.18-02-1963
Aline Ouellette. Deux enfants: Michel et Carole.*
- 5- *Roland: n.02-03-1942 m.01-05-1965
Denise Boisvert. Trois enfants: Normand, Denis et Lise.*
- 6- *Jacques: n.04-06-1943 m.11-11-1967
Pauline Boisvert. Quatre enfants: Nicole, Suzanne, Mona et Christine.*
- 7- *Jules: n.03-07-1944 d.bébé.*
- 8- *Marcel: n.09-08-1945 m.08-10-1966
Jeannette Boisvert. Deux enfants: Léona et Richard.*
- 9- *Murielle: n.02-01-1947 m.02-04-1964
René Doucet. Trois enfants: René, Monique et Roger. Ils en ont adopté trois autres: Rhonda, Joey et Judy.*
- 10- *Denise: n.19-05-1948 m.27-01-1968
Marcel Goupil. Trois enfants: Sylvie, Danielle et Barbara.*
- 11- *André: n.25-08-1949 m.11-08-1971
Treva Rock.*
- 12- *Thérèse: n.22-11-1950 m.19-08-1970
Mark Henley. Quatre enfants: Albert, Robert, Marie et Carl.*
- 13- *Gisèle: n.22-11-1951 m.02-09-1984
Thomas Holst.*
- 14- *Rita: n-18-10-1953 m.27-10-1973
Rick Feassler. Deux enfants: Tania et Ricardo.*
- 15- *Pierrette: n.29-06-1956 m.23-02-1974
Emile Boisvert. Trois enfants: Gilbert, Alain et Angéline.*

* * *

Leopold, son of Moise Lafleur and Emilia Legault was born on February 16, 1911 in l'Ascension, Cte. Labelle, P.Q.

In 1927 his family moved to Amos, P.Q. and for two and half years Leopold worked in a bakery.

In 1929 another move took his family to

Opasatika, Ont. and Leopold worked at cutting wood for a paper mill. He met Angeline Grenier whose family had come from St. Germain de Grantham, P.Q. Leopold married Angeline, daughter of Emmanuel Grenier and Georgianna Verville on January 9, 1935.

In September 1943 they decided to move to the west with four other families: Moise Lafleur, Armand Gagne, Rosario Blais and Fortunat Lachance. In one railroad car they loaded their belongings. The five families made the trip in a special car. They were met at the Donnelly train station by Father Paul Gagnon and Mr. Jules Bourgeois. They were given accommodations at Mr. Ernest Gosselin's for three months by which time they obtained their homestead SE-13-76-21-W5th two miles north of Guy and built their first home 16' x 24'.

In 1951, Leopold bought his father's land SW-31-75-20-W5th south of Guy and moved his house there. In winter Leopold worked in lumber camps.

In the early sixties, Leopold decided to rent out his land and work full time for the High Prairie School Division. In 1961 he built a new house. Leopold and Angeline fostered many children from Social Services. In 1964, they sold their land in Guy and moved to B.C. near Vancouver with their six youngest children.

In 1972, they came back to Falher and bought a home. Leopold returned to work for the High Prairie School Division for two years then retired. In October 1982, they moved to Grande Prairie to be nearer to their children.

LAFLEUR, MOISE & LEGAULT, EMILIA

by Chantal Lafleur Gagné

One of my earliest recollections is of my father talking about the West. Two of his uncles had come out to the Klondike. The graphic accounts of those travels so captivated my father that it became his dream to come out West to farm. My father's occupation at the time, (being a butcher by trade) was to supply the neighboring regions with fresh pork, chicken, (which he raised himself) eggs and beef. He would butcher the animals and cut the meat to be supplied to his customers. I loved to accompany my father on his deliveries; as a teenager, I was already developing a taste for commerce. Dad kept all his accounts in his head because he couldn't read nor write. He never made an error with figures, however.

This business was liquidated and my parents, my brother Yvan and myself became one of five families on a C.N.R. excursion to come west to



Emilia et Moïse Lafleur, jumeaux Allan et Carol Gagné.

Guy. Dad was 62 and Mom was 59. The year was 1943 and we lived in Opasatika, Ontario.

This relocation was very disheartening for my mother. She was leaving her family but worst of all, her own children would be split up as four of them, already established, were staying in Ontario and Québec. Still, she resolutely accompanied her husband and her other five children: Aurore, Leopold, Marie-Anne and their families, Yvan and myself. We left September 29, 1943, my father promising my mother that they would return in a few years for a long visit.

Although I ached at leaving my school friends behind, I was eager for the adventure. Where my sisters worried about life ahead, I welcomed it. At 14, I was not dismayed by the lack of facilities. I was confident that the future would take care of itself. The long trip by rail across half the country started a new chapter in my life.

Once in Guy, we spent the winter at the settlement of Mr. Ernest Gosselin. After assuring that their families were comfortable, the men left for the lumber camps for the winter. In the ever-present community spirit of the day, a young man who lived just south of us came by once a week, with his horse and wagon, and gathered everyone's list of the supplies that were needed from town. He then proceeded to Donnelly, bought everyone's supplies and brought them back by nightfall. His name was Paul Lemay and I was falling in love! It was my secret for a while.

In the spring, we bought our land, where a small mud-chinked cabin without even a window stood. When Dad brought us "home", mother took one look and started to cry; imme-

diately, I followed suit. All my father said was: "There is nothing to worry about". Then he turned to the man who had accompanied us and said to him: "Come back in a week." I didn't know what he meant at the time. However, the next day, Dad got a ride to town and bought some boards, a few panes of glass and some lime. He then proceeded to make some holes in the walls with his axe and he put in some windows. Mother painted the walls white (with the lime); the new window casings and door frame were painted blue (whitewash tinted with wash blue). She sewed a few curtains out of flower sacks and hung them at the windows. The next week when the visitor came back, he couldn't believe the transformation. We were home!

So we turned to the task of opening and cultivating the land. Dad had five horses and one cow that spring and we hauled water from Mike Sagula's spring some miles from our house. In the winter, we melted snow for them in a very large pan. Yvan and Dad also built a new house. About this time, father was very ill for more than a year following a mishap with one of his horses. He injured his legs and developed arthritis in them. Yvan had to work very hard until Dad recuperated (with the help of Mr. Lonfat, a dear friend who never let him give up.)

One year around 1948, Dad had a record crop of alfalfa. Many seed buyers came from all over to our house to buy our seed, each one of course trying to give a better price than the other. That crop enabled us all to spend three months back east to visit our relatives like Dad had promised when we left Ontario.



Chantal Lafleur.

I married Paul Lemay when I was 17 years old. We lived for some time on land of our own. We then moved to McLennan where Paul worked at the dry cleaners and I worked at the drug store. By then Mom and Dad had moved their house to the village of Guy. They enjoyed living near the church and attended Mass often. In 1954, they renewed their wedding vows and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends.

After a few years, Paul and I moved to Coquitlam, B.C. where I worked at Eaton's. Shortly after, Paul had two back operations and was in a body cast for six months. Mom and Dad worried about me out there and I worried about them out here because they were getting on in years. So we moved them to Coquitlam and they lived in a small house next to ours and we looked after each other. I took a course in real estate and opened my own business. Years later, my parents moved back to this area to the High Prairie Nursing Home. I came back to join them three months before they both died.

This is where I met my second husband, Bill Kushner. He was an orderly at the Nursing Home and was looking after Mom and Dad. We lived in High Prairie until his death.

I now live in Slave Lake and am married to Archie Gagné.

Moïse Lafleur: n.02-11-1881 m.07-01-1904 d.22-11-1972

Emilia Legault: n.20-04-1884 d. 10-12-1972

CHILDREN:

1. Aurore: n.01-08-1907
1.m. Armand Gagné (See Gagné, Armand)
2. Cécile n. 08-06-1909 d. 30-10-1957
Guy Lafleur
3. Leopold n. 16-02-1911
Angeline Grenier (See Lafleur, Leopold)
4. Jules n. 25-01-1915 d. 24-12-1976
Germaine Rivard
5. Aurea n. 12-05-1917 d. 22-12-1983
Frank Saunders
6. Marie-Anne n. 08-10-1918
Rosario Blais (See Blais, Rosario)
7. Jeanne n. 02-11-1921
Rosario Gaudreault
8. Yvan n. 25-01-1924
Laurette Riopel (See Lafleur, Yvan)
9. Chantal n. 05-02-1929
1.m. Paul Lemay m. 26-11-1946
2.m. William Kushner m. 15-10-1973
3.m. Archelas Gagné m. 05-11-1982
Four other children died in infancy.

* * *

Un de mes plus anciens souvenirs est de mon père parlant de l'Ouest. Deux de ses oncles étaient venus au Klondike. Les rapports détaillés de ces voyages avaient captivé mon père au point qu'il rêva de venir dans l'Ouest pour cultiver. Mon père qui était boucher par profession fournissait les régions avoisinantes de porc frais, poulets, oeufs et boeufs. Il faisait boucherie et coupait la viande pour ses livraisons; déjà adolescente je développais le goût du commerce. Mon père gardait tous ses comptes en tête car il ne savait ni lire ni écrire. Il n'a jamais fait d'erreurs avec les chiffres.

Le commerce fut liquidé et mes parents, mon frère Yvan et moi-même devenions une des cinq familles en excursion du Canadien National à venir dans l'Ouest. Papa avait 62 ans et maman, 59. C'était en 1943 et nous vivions à Opasatika, Ontario. Ce transfert fut très pénible pour ma mère. Elle laissait sa famille mais pire encore elle laissait une partie de ses propres enfants car quatre d'entre eux étaient déjà établis en Ontario et au Québec. Néanmoins, elle accompagna son mari et ses cinq autres enfants: Aurore, Léopold, Marie-Anne et leurs familles, Yvan et moi-même.

Alors on est parti le 29 septembre 1943, mon père promettant à ma mère de revenir dans quelques années pour une longue visite.

Une fois rendu à Guy, nous passions l'hiver chez M. Ernest Gosselin. Après s'être assuré que leurs familles étaient confortables les hommes partirent pour les chantiers. Au printemps, nous achetions notre terre où il y avait une petite cabane sans fenêtre.

L'année 1948, papa a eu une très bonne récolte de luzerne. Plusieurs acheteurs de graines vinrent chez nous pour acheter notre semence, chacun offrant un meilleur prix que l'autre. Cette récolte nous permit de retourner dans l'Est pour trois mois pour visiter notre parenté tel que papa l'avait promis en quittant l'Ontario.

Après plusieurs années mes parents revinrent dans la région au Foyer de High Prairie. Je revins pour les rejoindre trois mois avant leur décès. C'est ici que j'ai rencontré mon second mari, Bill Kushner. Il était infirmier au foyer prenant soin de papa et maman. Nous avons vécu à High Prairie jusqu'à la mort de Bill.

Je vis présentement à Slave Lake et je suis mariée à Archelas Gagné.

LAFLEUR, YVAN & RIOPEL, LAURETTE

par Françoise Dechief

Yvan est venu à Guy de Opasatika, Ontario, avec ses parents M. et Mme Moïse Lafleur à l'âge



R.1 Aurore. R.2 Yvan, Marie Anne, Chantal, Paul.

de 18 ans, en 1943. Il prit le "homestead" S/2-12-76-21-W5. Il fit sa résidence dans un vieux "shack" qui était là depuis longtemps. Il travailla pour ouvrir du terrain pendant quelques années. Il passait les hivers dans les chantiers à Faust et à Joussard comme bûcheron avec d'autres gens des alentours. Il prit part à la construction du couvent, à creuser le sous-basement avec un "Fresno" et un tracteur Fordson.

En 1950, il retourna en Ontario où il s'occupait à différents travaux toujours dans l'industrie du bois.

Le 15 juillet 1953, il épousa Laurette Riopel et ils demeurèrent à Val Rita et à Kapuskasing où il opérait une grue pour décharger les camions de pitoune et de billots pour la compagnie Spruce Falls.

Retirés à Kirkland Lake, c'est là que Laurette est décédée le 14 février 1983. Yvan est revenu dans l'Ouest en automne 1983. Il est demeuré à Grande Prairie et est présentement à Falher.

* * *

Yvan came to Guy from Opasatika, Ontario with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Moïse Lafleur at the age of 18 in 1943. He took a homestead of his own, staying in an old shack. He worked to open land during a number of years. He'd spend winters in lumber camps in Faust and Joussard. He took part in the construction of the convent, digging the basement with a Fresno and a Fordson tractor.

In 1950, he returned to Ontario where he worked at different jobs in the timber industry.

On July 15, 1953, he married Laurette Riopel and they stayed at Val Rita and at Kapuskasing where he operated a crane to unload logging trucks for the Spruce Falls Company.

Retiring at Kirkland Lake, it is there that Laurette died on February 14, 1983. Yvan came back West in the fall of 1983. He lived in Grande Prairie but now lives in Falher.

LAGACE, JOSEPH & BOUCHER, AUREA

par Rose Lagacé Hébert

Joseph Lagacé est né à Bic, Cté Rimouski, P.Q., fils de Joseph et Matilda Rousseau. Il a épousé Auréa Boucher fille de Napoléon et Marie Agnes Gélinas.

Mes parents, mes deux frères Léo et Richard et moi, Rose, sommes venus de St-Paul, AB. à Donnelly, en mars 1928 avec l'idée de prendre des "homestead" qui coûtaient seulement 10,00 \$. Mon père voulait ça surtout pour mes frères, pour leur avenir.

Plusieurs autres familles de St-Paul ont aussi immigré à la Rivière La Paix; les Bourgeois, Doucet, Limoges, Lessard, Dubrûle et Labbé. Ces familles se sont installées à des endroits différents. Plusieurs sont allés à McLennan, d'autres à Falher et Donnelly.



Léo, Rose, Richard, Auréa & Joseph.

Pour nous, un nouveau déménagement à Guy en 1932. Il n'y avait pas d'école, alors il a fallu attendre que les enfants aient fini leurs classes à Donnelly avant de s'installer pour de bon sur le "homestead" à Guy. A ce temps-là les "homestead" pouvaient être situés à neuf milles de la maison paternelle et la loi de résidence comptait.

Durant ce temps-là, en 1933, mon père, mes frères et oncle Arthur Robert, bâtissaient notre maison qui se trouvait à quatre milles au nord de Guy.

En 1933-34 il a fait beau et les grosses machines ont commencé à faire le chemin.

Nous, nous hébergions les hommes. Ils étaient quatre ou cinq.

Le chemin n'a pas été terminé avant trois ans pour se rendre à Guy qui était maintenant une paroisse.

L'abbé Mallet venait à Guy dire la messe une fois par mois. Il nous fallait une église; la grande question est: Où la placer? Les gens la voulaient tous à leur porte; il fallut un peu de temps pour démêler ça. Enfin elle a été placée dans le centre du district, en face du magasin.

Mon père a pris une part très active au développement de la paroisse de Guy. Il a été mar-guillier, commissaire d'école et membre de toutes les organisations de la paroisse.

Joseph Lagacé avait déjà à St-Paul une réputation pour la force de sa voix. Un jour il y eut un concours de crieurs sur le perron de l'église: lequel pourrait se faire comprendre le plus loin. La phrase était choisie: "Détache et lâche la grise". Jos Lagacé a gagné le concours sans aucun doute, mais quand la Grise entendit la voix de son maître elle partit pour la maison sans que Mme Lagacé puisse l'arrêter. Et Jos Lagacé avait gagné... il dut marcher jusque chez lui.

Cette même voix a présidé, pendant des années, aux bingos, parties de cartes, encans et toutes sortes d'activités au profit de la paroisse et de l'école. Il était écouté et compris! Il était toujours disponible et plein d'entrain, comme arbitre de poids aux parties de balle, comme Père Noël aux concerts de l'école Benoit...

Mme Lagacé avait une voix beaucoup plus douce, mais un caractère tout aussi fort et intéressé au développement de Guy. Elle fut secrétaire à l'école Benoit et très active avec les dames dans les organisations paroissiales. Un grand nombre de nouveaux arrivants ont joui de son hospitalité et de son savoir-faire dans la cuisine, chez elle ou à Guy au souper-bazars justement réputés.

Monsieur Lagacé travailla pendant plusieurs années à l'entretien du chemin de Donnelly à Guy. D'abord il traînait la gratte avec quatre chevaux, puis pour quelque temps avec un tracteur spécial; c'était un vieux camion de deux tonnes que son fils Richard et lui avaient raccourci et transformé en tracteur. Ce ne fut pas un succès total. A la fin il se servait du petit tracteur Case V.A.

En octobre 1948, M. Joseph Lagacé voyait presque la totalité de sa récolte de petites graines consumées par les flammes. Il avait travaillé au cours de l'après-midi dans sa boutique de forge attendant à une grainerie remplie de luzerne et de trèfle d'odeur. Dans la nuit

le feu surprit tout le voisinage qui accourut prêter main-forte. Impossible de sauver quoi que ce fut. De la forge et de ses outils, rien qui vaille la peine d'être utilisés; de la récolte, très peu de graines furent épargnées par le feu. De sorte qu'on évalua la perte de M. Joseph Lagacé à plus de 2 000,00 \$.

En février 1949, M. Joseph Lagacé était élu commissaire pour la grande division scolaire de High Prairie, il remplaçait M. Théo Ouellette sortant de charge. L'élection a faillit être chaude, voire même sur le point d'être reprise tant tout fut mêlé.

Quelques voisins généreux en mai 1952, ont fait les semences de M. Joseph Lagacé hospitalisé depuis quelques semaines à Edmonton.

Joseph Lagacé: n.15-01-1888 m.29-11-1911 d.17-11-1952

Auréa Boucher: n. 08-02-1891 d. 08-06-1971
ENFANTS:

1- Léo: n. 31-05-1914 m. 04-01-1938 d. 21-04-1948

Médora Brulotte (Voir Lagacé, Léo)

2- Rose: n. 20-08-1915 m. 27-01-1936

Walter Hébert (voir Hébert, Walter)

3- Richard: n. 19-06-1918 m. 12-11-1940 d. 26-03-1981

Françoise Boulet (voir Lagacé, Richard)

* * *

My parents, Joseph and Auréa, my brothers Richard and Léo and myself, Rose, came to Donnelly from St. Paul in March 1928. The reason behind this move was to purchase homesteads in the area which were being sold for a mere ten dollars. My father wanted these homesteads to establish my brothers on their own land.

We moved once again in 1932, this time to the Guy area. Since there was no school there, our parents waited for us to have finished school in Donnelly before settling down permanently on our Guy homestead.

In 1933, my father, brothers and Uncle Arthur Robert built our house four miles north of Guy.

The weather was beautiful in 1933-34 so the machines began the task of building roads. The men who worked on these machines boarded in our home. It took three years for the road construction to be completed. By this time, Guy was an established parish.

My father took a very active part in the development of Guy as a parish. He was a church trustee and a member of the school board as well as of most organizations in Guy. He was well-known for his booming voice and even com-

peted, at one time, for the position of town-crier. His voice came in handy for many years as he presided over bingos, card parties, auction sales and many other fund-raising activities in the developing community. My father was always available to act as umpire at baseball games, to dress up as Santa Claus or to be master of ceremonies at Benoit School concerts.

His wife had a much softer voice but she possessed a personality that was just as strong and as interested in the development of Guy. She served as school secretary and was involved with other women in parochial organizations. Many of the newcomers to the area enjoyed her special brand of hospitality and culinary talents.

My father worked for many years in the maintenance of the road from Donnelly to Guy. To begin with, the grader was pulled by horses but in the later years he and Richard devised a special tractor made from a shortened two-ton truck. Their invention was not a total success! Eventually the grader was pulled by a small Case V.A. tractor.

Fire struck in 1948 and Father saw his whole year's crop in flames. He had been working that day in his blacksmith shop which adjoined two granaries filled with sweet clover and alfalfa. During the night, the fire woke the neighbors who quickly came to lend a helping hand. It proved impossible to save anything whatsoever. Damages, according to the newspaper, *LA SURVIVANCE*, were estimated at two thousand dollars.

In January 1949, our father was elected to the board of the High Prairie School Division. He replaced Mr. T. Ouellette. The election was a close one and was nearly disputed.

LAGACE, LEO & BRULOTTE, MEDORA

by Medora Lagace

Leo Lagace, son of Jos. Lagace and Aurea Boucher, was born in St-Paul, Alberta, May 31st, 1914. In 1928 Jos Lagace moved to Donnelly where he worked as a blacksmith. Leo attended school in Donnelly until 1931. Then he attended the Jesuit College in Edmonton. During Leo's last school year his parents moved to their farm in Guy, eight miles south of Donnelly. After his schooling Leo worked for Mr. Andre Boulet and Mr. Zoel Cote of Donnelly. In fact it was while working for Mr. Zoel Cote, that he met his wife Medora Brulotte, daughter of Willie Brulotte and Rose Anna Boulet, who was also working for her cousin, Mrs. Marie Cote.

The courtship lasted four years. It consisted mostly of taking walks on the wooden sidewalks from the school to the restaurant, attending



Léo et Médora.

church social parties and once in a while there were dances in family homes.

When Medora was on the farm in Guy with her parents Leo rode horseback, "if the horse had not been worked that day" or walked eight miles to visit her; of course this determination ended in a marriage on January 4, 1938 in the Guy church. The ceremony was performed by L'Abbe St-Pierre.

The young couple stayed one year with Leo's parents while Leo travelled to the Maisonneuve farm to help with the spring work. Their first child Leona was born in Mr. Jos Lagace's home, assisted by Dr. Hardy of Falher and the midwives of the locality, Mrs. Aurele Benoit and mother-in-law Mrs. Jos Lagace.

In 1939 the family of three moved to Mr. Sebastien Jasmin's farm home for a year to help with the farm work because of Mr. Jasmin's illness. Then Leo built a log house in Guy on Mr. Arthur Robert's quarter of land. Mr. Robert later kept 20 acres of this for his business as storekeeper and sold the remaining 140 acres to Leo. He took the task of clearing the trees close to the building by hand with an axe, for a garden spot and later erected a barn.



4 generations: great-grandfather Joseph Brulotte, grandfather Willie Brulotte, mother Medora et Leona Lagace.

Medora and Aunt Dill "Mrs. Robert" were busy with the house chores and the big garden which would produce enough vegetables for the canning of the winter supply.

In May, 1940 Mr. A. Robert and his wife left for Prince Rupert because of their son Val's accident.

Leo and Medora managed the store and the Post Office until Mr. & Mrs. Robert came back, four years later. They then sold their business to Mr. Aurele Benoit who operated it for two years. In January 1946 the business was sold again to Mr. Jack Ellis. Later that year, in June, the Post Office was transferred to Leo and Medora's home. The Post Office becoming a small corner of the kitchen. Later a front porch was added to accommodate the population. In 1958 Medora resigned as postmistress in favour of Mr. Jos Dancause. When the Langlois School District was formed in 1947 Leo became the first secretary-treasurer, a position he held till February, 1949. He also was the first bus-driver for the Langlois School, a position he held till his terminal illness.

Leo and Medora were active as volunteers for the annual church picnics and bazaars. Medora was vice-president of the Dames de Ste-Anne association. Leo was a director for the Guy Credit Union and an executive for the Guy Chamber of Commerce.

Leo passed away April 21, 1958.

Three and a half years after Leo died, Medora married Rheal Lechasseur, on December 2, 1961. He had come from Luceville, comte Rimouski, where he attended school and studied carpentry.

Rheal was born September 27, 1929 to August



R.1 Antoine, Cécile. R.2 Léona & Roland Lagacé.

Lechasseur and Clemence Pelletier of Luceville. He came from Luceville to join his brother, Father Raphael Lechasseur in June 1950 and worked at his trade on the construction of the convent in Guy.

In 1959 he took a homestead across the Smoky River, nine and a half miles south of Guy. He quit farming in April 1975 on account of ill health. Rheal and Medora moved to St-Albert where he bought a house, which he remodelled to an attractive modern home. Rheal died April 23, 1982 after a short illness. Medora still resides in St. Albert in the cosy, comfortable, well planned home full of memories.



Médora & Rhéal Lechasseur.

Leo Lagace; b.31-05-1914 m.04-01-1938 d.21-04-1958

Medora Brulotte; b.11-01-1918 2.m. 12-02-1961
CHILDREN:

1. Leona; b.13-02-1939 m.31-10-1956

Jean Bouilly. They had three children:

a) Jocelyn; b.13-06-1958 m.30-09-1978

John Bremault. They have two children;
Dennis and Christopher.

b) Daniel; b.16-05-1960 m.16-07-1983
Barbara Martin.

c) Diane; b.26-10-1962 m.27-08-1983
Barry Pelletier. They have two children;
Daniel and Jennifer.

2. Cecile; b.04-05-1941 m.05-05-1962

1.m. Clement Boisvert.

a) Simone; b.17-07-1963

2.m. Michael Brandon; m. 13-07-1973
He had twin girls; Maria and Kathleen.

3. Roland; b.08-05-1943 m.19-08-1967

Linda Kwasny. they have two children.
Darren and Sherilyn.

4. Antoine; b.10-04-1950 m.23-08-1969

1.m. Gloria Taylor. They had two children;

a) Clayton b.24-06-1972.

b) Christy b.11-09-1974.

2.m. Diane DeGroot; m.20-08-1983.

a) Brandy; b.31-12-1984.

* * *

Léo, fils de Jos Lagacé et Auréa Boucher, naquit à St-Paul, Alberta, le 31 mai 1914. En 1928 il arriva avec ses parents à Donnelly, comme forgeron. Quand Léo, eut complété ses études au collège des Jésuites à Edmonton, il revient chez ses parents qui avaient déménagé.

Léo prit un emploi chez André Boulet, puis Zoël Côté. C'est là qu'il rencontra Médora Brulotte qui travaillait elle aussi pour sa cousine, Mme Côté. Après quatre années de fréquentations, ils unirent leur destinées le 4 janvier 1938.

Le jeune couple demeura chez les parents de Léo, pendant que Léo travaillait pour M. Matsonneuve. En 1939, ils prirent soin de la ferme de M. Sébastien Jasmin, qui était malade.

De là, ils sont déménagés à Guy, près du magasin de M. Arthur Robert, oncle de Médora.

En 1940, M. Robert partit pour Prince Rupert et laissa Léo et Médora en charge du magasin pour quatre ans. Alors que le magasin fut vendu à Aurèle Benoit.

En 1946 Médora prit possession du bureau de poste, ceci jusqu'en 1958, alors qu'elle le laissa aller à M. Jos Dancause.

En plus d'être secrétaire du district Langlois,

nouvellement formé, Léo devint chauffeur d'autobus scolaire, jusqu'en 1958, lorsque Léo fut appelé à son repos éternel, le 21 avril 1958.

Trois ans plus tard le 2 décembre 1961, Médora se marie en seconde nocces avec Rhéal Lechasseur. IL naquit à Luceville, Québec, le 27 septembre 1929 de Auguste Lechasseur et Clémence Pelletier. En juin 1950, il vint rejoindre son frère, le Rév. Père Raphaël Lechasseur, o.m.i., curé de Guy.

Bon charpentier, Rhéal travailla à la construction du couvent de Guy. En 1959 il prit du terrain au sud de la rivière et fut cultivateur jusqu'en avril 1975 quand sa santé ne lui permit plus le travail fatigant.

Rhéal et Médora déménagèrent à St. Albert où ils avaient acheté une maison. Ils vécurent dans leur coquette petite maison aménagée par Rhéal jusqu'à sa mort le 23 avril 1982.

LAGACE, RICHARD & BOULET, FRANCOISE

by Françoise Boulet Lagace

Mr. and Mrs. Jos Lagace and family had been living on their homestead a few years when Richard in the spring of 1937 went to Peace River to file for a homestead: NW¼-25-76-21W5M. It took him three days to make the journey. The first day he went a little ways north of Nampa. There alongside the road lived a bachelor, he had a stable and travellers could give their horses a rest and feed. He was charging 25 cents for the hay for the horse and the passenger was treated to a hot cup of tea before retiring for the night....in the hayloft. Early next morning he continued on his way to the Land Titles Office in Peace River. After he finished his business he took the road back again to stop at the same place for the night and got the same hospitality. On the



Richard & Léo Lagacé.

third day he returned home, eight miles south of Donnelly.

In those days it was an adventure to go to Peace River. From Donnelly to Peace River it was a forest, a dirt road, very little gravel, the trees came close to the road. A few settlers here and there, the village of Nampa, then some more forest; the road was going down by the old hill, to go downtown Peace River.

In 1935 Leo and Richard took a job, clearing some land for a neighbor. They cut, piled and burned the brush, all by hand. He paid them with a team of horses. Leo and Richard gave the team to their father. Mr. Lagace was very proud of those horses.

With good musicians, like Enee and Simon Fortier and Delphis Brulotte and the master of ceremony full of life, everyone enjoyed themselves. There were square dances called by Leo Lagace, also waltzes and other dances. A well appreciated lunch was served at midnight. It was followed by a sing-a-long, Mr. Lagace started the singing with his nice, strong voice.



R.1 Camille, Richard Jr, Sara. R.2 Richard, Françoise. R.3 André, Ghislaine, Gilles, Normand, Rhea, Remy, Claude Jacques

Sometimes Delphis Brulotte would entertain with Cowboy songs and could yodel to perfection. Also Johnny Kosoulyn had an extraordinary voice, would sing the "Woodpecker Song", and whistled like a professional, even better than Gracie Field, herself. (Johnny's wife, Simone Laperle, was teaching at Benoit School).

There were tables for those card players to enjoy a few games of 500 or bridge. After this rest, the dance started again to end at the wee hours of the morning.

After we were married, November 12, 1940

we stayed at Richard's parents' home for a while. In January 1941 Richard went for his Military Training "Reserve Army" in Grande Prairie.

In the spring he built our first home in his father's yard. When the house was finished he had to move it to his homestead, with the help of Bill Harris and Ben May and their tractors on steel wheels. The move was easy. We went to live there, our neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Edmond L'abbe. It was not even a quarter of a mile between the two houses, but to go visit, we had to go with the horses and wagon. There was water to the box of the wagon. The road allowance was a trail and slough.

In 1942 we moved to my parents' place in Donnelly. ("They were living where the Airport is now"). We worked this farm until June 1946 then we moved to the town of Donnelly where Richard started a garage and did some general trucking, grain, lumber, coal, ice etc.....

In 1967 we moved back on a homestead in the Guy area where I still reside.

Richard Lagace; b.19-06-1918 m.11-12-1940 d.25-03-1981. Francoise Boulet; CHILDREN;

1. Normand; b.18-03-1941 m.04-01-1965 Marcelle Montpellier. They have two children.
2. Rhea; b.09-03-1942 m.18-04-1960 Fernand Laliberte. They have two children.
3. Andre; b.02-07-1943 m.30-10-1965 Clara Merchant. They have two children.
4. Jacques; b.08-09-1945 m.08-11-1969 Claudette Merchant. They have two children.
5. Ghislaine; b.05-10-1946 m.12-08-1965 Larry Mcken. They have three children.
6. Remy; b.29-09-1948 m.18-07-1970 Shonna Mcken. They have three children
7. Claude; b.04-01-1952 m.10-11-1973 Noreen Harding. They have two children.
8. Gilles; b.06-07-1953 m.22-04-1972 Debbie Rondeau. They have two children.
9. Gaetane; b.30-01-1955 d.04-02-1955.
10. Camille; b.12-03-1956 m.18-12-1982 Lisa Ireland. They have three children.
11. Richard; b.24-08-1959
12. Sarah; b.18-11-1960 m.29-08-1981 Glen Robbins.

* * *

Les parents et la famille de Richard demeuraient à Guy sur leur "homestead" depuis quelques années, quand Richard, au printemps 1937 est allé à Peace River appliquer pour son "homestead". NW-1/4-25-76-21-W5m. Le trajet à cheval a pris trois jours.

Le premier jour il se rend au nord de Nampa. Un "bachelor" demeurant près du chemin avait une étable où les passants pouvaient laisser reposer leurs chevaux. Il chargeait 25 cents pour le foin du cheval et le passant recevait une tasse de thé avant de se retirer pour la nuit... dans le grenier à foin. Le lendemain il part tôt pour se rendre au bureau des Terres à Peace River. Après avoir complété ses affaires Richard reprend le chemin du retour et arrête à la même place pour la nuit. Il reçoit les mêmes politesses de ce Monsieur. Le troisième jour il revient chez-lui.

C'était toute une aventure d'aller à Peace River ces années-là; surtout quand on y allait à cheval: un simple chemin de terre, très peu de gravier, la forêt qui longe le chemin, quelques habitants ici et là le long de la route, le village de Nampa, et encore de la forêt. On descendait par la vieille côte à Peace River.

En 1935 Léo et Richard avaient défriché plusieurs acres de terrain pour un voisin: bûché à la hache, pilé, brûlé. Pour les payer ce fermier leur a donné un "team" de chevaux, dont ils firent cadeau à leur père. M. Jos Lagacé était bien fier de ses chevaux.

Les parents de Richard étaient bien connus pour leur belles veillées de famille. C'était entendu, quand il y avait une soirée chez M. Jos Lagacé tous les voisins y étaient. Pour des noces dans la famille, ils agrandissaient la maison davantage: ils enlevaient la cloison de la chambre, montaient le lit et les couvertures au deuxième étage, rangeaient les meubles le long du mur, ce qui donnait beaucoup plus de place pour leurs invités.

Avec de bons musiciens comme Delphis Bru-lotte, Enée et Simon Fortier, et le maître de cérémonie plein d'entrain, tous s'amusaient bien. Il y avait des quadrilles: Léo Lagacé était le "caller". La valse aussi était populaire. Après un bon goûter servi vers minuit; il y avait une secousse de chansons à répondre. M. Lagacé de sa belle et forte voix entraînait tous ses invités. Parfois Delphis divertissait les invités avec de belles chansons Western et des tyroliennes exécutées à la perfection. Ensuite Johnny Kasulyn doué d'une voix extraordinarie exécutait le "Woodpecker Song" et sifflait comme un professionnel, aussi bien que Gracie Field elle-même. (La femme de Johnny, Simone Laperle, enseignait à l'école Benoit.)

Les amateurs de cartes en profitaient pour prendre une bonne partie de cinq-cents ou de bridge. Après ce repos la danse recommençait pour se terminer aux petites heures du matin.

Après notre mariage, le 12 novembre 1940,

nous avons passé l'hiver chez les parents de Richard. En janvier 1941 Richard est allé à Grande Prairie pour son entraînement militaire dans l'armée de réserve. Au printemps il bâtit notre première maison dans la cour de son père. La maison terminée, Richard la déménagea sur sa concession (5 milles au nord de Guy.) Il fut aidé de Bill Harris et de Ben May avec leurs tracteurs sur acier.

M. et Mme Edmond Labbé étaient nos voisins. Ils demeuraient à moins d'un quart de mille mais pour s'y rendre il fallait atteler les chevaux sur le gros wagon car parfois l'eau allait jusqu'au ventre des chevaux et entraînait dans la boîte du wagon.

En 1942 nous avons déménagé chez mes parents à Donnelly, où se trouve l'aéroport maintenant. Nous avons cutivé les terres de mon père, M. André Boulet, jusqu'en juin 1946. Là, nous déménagions au village de Donnelly où Richard commençait un garage et faisait le travail de camionneur général pour charroyer le grain, le charbon, le bois, la glace etc.....

En 1967 nous revenons nous établir sur une autre concession dans le district de Guy, W-1/2-22-74-21-W5, où je demeure encore.

LAMARCHE, NORMAN & FORTIER, FLORENCE

by Florence Lamarche

Norman Lamarche, son of Ludger Lamarche and Georgina Nadeau, was born in McLennan, September 15, 1938. He lived in Donnelly on his parent's farm and attended school in Donnelly Heights. At the age of twenty-one he married Florence Fortier, daughter of Hormidas Fortier and Suzanne Dupuis of Guy.

When we were first married we lived in a small house in Norman's parents' yard three miles from the Donnelly Heights school. In winter Norman would go to lumber camps until our oldest girl, Doris, started school. One year we worked in Meander River for Roger Fournier and lived in a 8' X 8' shack. That is where we were living when our second daughter, Susan, decided to become part of this world. We borrowed a truck without a heater from Lucien Fortier and at 2:00 a.m. headed for McLennan in -50 degree temperature. We ran out of gas by Peace River and after obtaining some gas we barely made it in time to McLennan. What a start in life!"

In 1961, Norman took a homestead in White-mud. He bought a D2 Caterpillar and opened his four quarters of land. He did custom work and worked in the lumber camps in the winter.

In 1975, he bought a section of land from Rheal Lechasseur, finished clearing it and



Norman, Florence Lamarche.

brought it under cultivation. Some winters Norman hauled logs for Buchanan Lumber Mill of High Prairie.

Florence has worked as a supervisor of housekeeping and laundry in the Notre Dame du Lac Nursing Home as well as in the Sacred Heart Hospital for twenty enjoyable years. She had a thirty mile one way drive five days a week to go to work. She only quit on account of ill health.

Recently Norman has purchased and moved to his land, SE-27-74-W5 a modern and stylish cedar house. Norman is quite an energetic fellow farming three sections of his own land and renting three other quarters.

Norman Lamarche; b.15-09-1938 m.30-12-1959
Florence Fortier; b.04-07-1941

CHILDREN:

1. Doris; b.18-08-1960 m.31-07-1982
Brian Toker; b.04-06-1958. They have one son;
a) Derek; b.26-04-1983. They have made their home in Grande Prairie where Brian works for Proctor and Gamble. Doris is supervisor and Justice of the Peace at the Provincial courthouse.
2. Susan; b.30-12-1964
Susan has done modelling and is now hair-dressing.

* * *

Norman Lamarche, fils de Ludger Lamarche et Georgiana Nadeau, fit ses études à Donnelly Heights.

Norman et son épouse Florence demeuraient dans la cour paternelle pour leurs premières

années de mariage. En hiver, ils allaient travailler dans les chantiers.

En 1961, Norman prend du terrain dans la région Whitemud. il achète un D2 Caterpillar pour défricher son terrain et faire du travail pour les autres.

En 1975, il achète du terrain de Rhéal Lechasseur.

Norman travaille parfois pour Buchanan Lumber de High Prairie.

Florence a travaillé pendant vingt ans à l'hôpital Sacré Coeur et Foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan.

Leur fille Doris et son époux Brian Toker demeurent à Grande Prairie. Brian travaille pour Proctor and Gamble. Doris est directrice et juge de paix à la cour provinciale.

Leur fille Susan est maintenant coiffeuse.

LAMBERT, AURELE & BRULOTTE, ELMIRE

par leurs enfants

Aurèle Lambert, né à St-Ferdinand, comté Mégantic, le 13 janvier 1883, unissait sa destinée le 22 août 1906 à Elmire Brulotte, née à Biddeford, Maine, E.U. le 15 février 1885. Le mariage eut lieu à Ham Nord, comté de Wolfe, P.Q. Le



R.1 René. R.2 Carméline, Aurèle, Elmire, Omer. R.3 Germaine, Maurice, Gilberte, Raoul Lambert.

couple demeura d'abord à St-Fortunat pendant six ans, puis alla demeurer à Ham Nord, petit village non loin de là.

Comme c'était la coutume à l'époque, on parlait beaucoup d'aller tenter fortune dans l'ouest canadien. Papa et son frère Zoël décidèrent d'aller examiner les possibilités. Arrivés à Debden, Sask., à l'été de 1912, papa prend un "homestead" tandis que son frère ne s'y plait pas et retourne dans l'est. Papa retourne aussi, mais pour revenir en 1913 avec maman et leur quatre enfants: Maurice, Omer, Carméline et Raoul. Trois autres enfants sont nés à Debden: Germaine, Gilberte et René.

Après un stage d'une quinzaine d'années, il fallait songer à établir les grands garçons. C'est alors qu'Henri Percheron, autrefois de Debden, et qui avait fait plusieurs voyages à l'extérieur, revint dans sa paroisse et parle à papa avec enthousiasme de la vaste et belle région de Rivière La Paix en Alberta et de la possibilité d'avoir des "homestead" rapprochés pour lui et ses garçons. De plus, il y a un cousin de maman Frédéric Brulotte, qui est déjà établi dans cette région. Ce fait facilitera l'arrivée de la famille Lambert.

Le 12 avril 1928, papa et ses deux fils aînés, Maurice et Omer, arrivent à Falber et sont cordialement accueillis chez ce cousin. On prend le temps de visiter et d'examiner les terres de la région et le choix se fait: quatorze milles au sud de Donnelly. Alors papa applique pour le quart de terre NO 19-75-20 et Maurice et Omer en prennent aussi près de là. C'était un beau terrain plat, facile à défricher et où on trouvait peu de roches. Papa retourne alors à Debden pour y liquider les affaires et ramener la famille.

Pendant le trajet en train, bien des gens venaient leur parler car ils les entendaient parler français, entre autres, M. Eugène Lemay et M. Aurèle Benoit de Vègreville qui, eux aussi, venaient voir cette région avec l'espoir de venir s'y installer avec leur famille.

C'est le 28 avril 1928 que nous arrivions à Falber, chez Fred Brulotte qui nous loua son terrain ainsi que des machines aratoires et ses chevaux. De plus, Fred possédait aussi un moulin à scie qui s'avéra très utile plus tard pour obtenir et préparer le bois nécessaire pour construire. Pendant deux ans, nous avons demeuré chez lui et cultivé ses terres. Quand ils avaient le temps, et pendant l'hiver, papa et les garçons allaient à Guy pour défricher les "homestead" et pour construire un assez grand "shack" pour y recevoir la famille. Il fallait s'y rendre à travers champs, car il n'y avait pas encore de

chemin. Heureusement que 1930 fut un hiver presque sans neige. Durant ce temps, ils demeurèrent dans une petite "caboose" que Fred leur avait donnée et qu'ils avaient emmenée sur le "homestead". Ce petit abri a servi par la suite à plusieurs nouveaux colons qui s'y réfugiaient en attendant de bâtir leur première demeure, entre autres M. Albert Tokarz, M. Benoit Major et M. Alcide Turcotte.

Enfin, le 28 février 1931, la famille Lambert arriva définitivement à Guy, excepté Germaine qui resta pensionnaire au couvent de Falber pour y compléter son année scolaire. On s'installa dans le nouveau "shack" en log en attendant la construction de la maison. On avait avec nous un neveu de papa, Raymond Cloutier.

En août 1931 la famille abandonnait l'abri provisoire, ce premier "shack" de colons, pour s'installer dans la maison à deux étages enfin prête pour la recevoir. M. l'abbé Mallet, pasteur de la paroisse, vint d'abord bénir la maison et, à cette occasion, y célébra la Sainte messe. Ensuite il demanda à papa ce qu'il projetait faire avec le "shack". En apprenant que ça deviendrait une "shop", il demanda s'il pourrait s'en servir comme une petite chapelle pour y dire la messe deux fois par mois en attendant que l'église soit prête. Papa fut content d'acquiescer à cette demande.

A peine était-on installé dans la maison, le 22 août exactement, que voisins et amis s'y réunissaient pour célébrer les Noces d'Argent de papa et maman. Cette maison devint bientôt un lieu de rencontre où tous étaient bienvenus. Souvent, M. le curé amenait chez nous les colons nouvellement arrivés. Maman, toujours accueillante, leur offrait du café, des biscuits, et les invitait à rester pour un bon repas.

Comme la plupart des pionniers de ce temps-là, on n'avait pas beaucoup d'argent car c'était la grande crise économique, mais on se tirait d'affaire. On menageait et on travaillait fort. On ne manquait pas de nourriture. On faisait un grand jardin qui nous fournissait des légumes. On avait aussi les produits de la chasse: originaux, chevreuils, poules de prairies, canards, lièvres que maman savait si bien apprêter et que nous trouvions bien bons. Nous allions aussi cueillir des fruits sauvages qui faisaient de bons desserts. Puis on préparait pour l'hiver des cannages de viande et de légumes, du lard salé, des conserves et des confitures de fruits sauvages.

Il y avait toujours le problème de l'eau. L'hiver les hommes allaient à la rivière et sciaient de gros blocs de glace qu'ils transpor-

taient à la maison en grosse sleigh trainée par des chevaux. Chez nous les hommes avaient bâti une grande glacière. C'était un carré en logs d'à peu près vingt pieds par vingt pieds et de sept à huit pieds de haut, au milieu duquel il y avait une petite cabane, ou armoire, d'environ six pieds carrés. Les blocs de glace étaient placés en rangées dans le grand carré, chacun entouré de bran de scie, jusqu'à la hauteur du carré et le tout était recouvert d'une épaisseur de brande-scie. La petite cabane au milieu était notre glacière. On y accédait par la porte du carré d'abord, puis un petit passage et une autre porte pour entrer dans la petite cabane où il y avait des tablettes pour déposer les aliments au frais.



Aurèle, petit-fils, Maurice Lambert en avant du premier "shack".

Malgré les temps difficiles, on était heureux, car il y avait parmi les gens beaucoup d'amitié et d'entraide et on s'amusait bien, les dimanches surtout. Dans l'après-midi, des voisins et amis venaient chez nous pour jouer aux croquets ou parfois à la balle molle. Dans la soirée on jouait aux cartes. Pendant la semaine, les soirées se passaient habituellement à faire de petits travaux: maman et les filles tricotaient, brodaient, faisaient des couvre-pieds, cousaient, souvent pour refaire du linge usagé, tout à la lumière de la lampe à l'huile. La journée se terminait par la prière en famille.

En 1931 une nouvelle loi du gouvernement donnait aux colons l'autorisation de couper sur leur terrain du bois de construction pour leur propre usage. La loi donnait aussi aux dames le

droit de prendre des "homestead". C'est ainsi que Maman prit le NO 25-74-21, Carméline et Germaine prirent la demi section ouest de 36-74-21. Le terrain à maman était sur le haut des côtes de la petite rivière Boucane. Papa et les garçons y bâtirent un "shack" en logs, qui leur servait d'abri quand ils allaient couper du bois ou de la glace. C'était un site pittoresque d'où on voyait la rivière couler en bas. On pouvait aussi s'y rendre en voiture avec des chevaux même s'il n'y avait pas de chemin. Souvent, le dimanche après-midi, on s'y réunissait pour une fête champêtre, apportant notre souper que l'on étalait sur une nappe étendue sur l'herbe. Assis tout autour, on mangeait, jasnait, chantaient et contaient des histoires. Dans ce temps-là, il n'y avait pas de parc avec des tables que le gouvernement entretient maintenant pour l'usage des pique-niqueurs.

En décembre 1931, un bureau de poste fut ouvert dans notre maison. Il fut nommé Forest View et papa devint le maître de poste. Le courrier y venait une fois par semaine apporté de Falber par le postillon, M. Sidoroff. Plus tard ce fut deux fois par semaine et papa devint aussi postillon car M. Sidoroff, n'étant pas naturalisé, avait dû laisser cet emploi. Papa partait de bonne heure le matin, en wagon et chevaux, en caboose l'hiver, et ne revenait que le soir, quelquefois bien tard quand les chemins étaient quasi impraticables. Après quelques années, vers 1939, il put s'acheter un petit camion, Model T, qui rendit ses voyages plus faciles. Papa a gardé cet emploi pour une vingtaine d'années, jusqu'en 1952. Dans les dernières années, il se faisait souvent remplacer par Maurice ou René. La dernière année, ce fut Maurice qui en assumait la responsabilité.

En septembre 1933, Germaine quittait la famille pour Falber où elle entra comme aspirante chez les Soeurs de Sainte-Croix. Puis en juillet 1934, après avoir fait une visite à la famille, elle partait pour la Maison-Mère des Soeurs à St-Laurent, P.Q. pour y faire son noviciat. Elle était la première à quitter la famille pour suivre sa vocation. Ce fut pénible de la voir partir, mais nous étions heureux du choix qu'elle avait fait. Après son noviciat, elle fit ses premiers vœux en 1936 et ses vœux perpétuels en 1941. Dès 1936, elle revint in Alberta pour y oeuvrer à la vigne du Seigneur.

A la fin d'octobre 1934, M. l'abbé Mallet partait de la paroisse et Guy devenait une desserte de Falber. Cependant les pionniers de Guy désiraient avoir un Prêtre résident. M. Emile Johnson, M. Joseph Bourgeois et papa se rendirent voir Monseigneur l'évêque pour en faire¹



Mme Lambert, Sr Germaine et M. Lambert en avant du bureau de poste de Forest View.

demande. Mgr Guy leur promit de faire son possible pour en trouver un. Enfin, en novembre 1935, M. l'abbé Camille Saint-Pierre arrivait comme curé, à la grande joie des paroissiens.

Notre famille a été très impliquée dans la fondation, les organisations et les activités de cette nouvelle communauté. Dans les premiers temps, papa et les garçons participaient autant que possible aux corvées qui se faisaient pour le défrichement du terrain et la construction de l'église, ou pour le bois de poêle pour l'église et le presbytère, et plus tard, pour le pensionnat. Papa a été commissaire d'école, marguillier, maître-chante. Il était fier d'être membre de l'A.C.F.A., de recevoir le journal canadien-français *La Survivance*, de faire partie et même d'organiser chez lui un Cercle d'étude sur la Coopération. Maman était Dame de Ste-Anne. Elle contribuait aux activités organisés pour recueillir des fonds nécessaires pour l'église, telles que parties de cartes, soupers, bazars. Nos parents ont mis le meilleur d'eux-même pour la fondation et le développement de cette paroisse.

En 1937, quelle ne fut pas la surprise de papa de voir arriver son frère Zoël et son épouse de LaSarre, Abitibi. Ils ne s'étaient pas vus depuis vingt-trois ans. Ce fut une grande joie pour eux de se revoir et pour la famille de se connaître et de passer une semaine ensemble. Le temps nous a paru trop court.

En 1946, papa et maman firent un voyage

dans l'Est du Canada et des Etats-Unis pour visiter leurs frères et soeurs qu'ils n'avaient pas revus depuis leur départ en 1913. Durant ces trente-trois ans, ils avaient perdu chacun leur père et mère sans pouvoir les revoir, ce qui n'était pas rare pour les colons de ces temps-là. A leur retour de l'Est, ils eurent la surprise et la joie de voir, érigée sur leur terrain, une belle croix de chemin, ce qu'ils désiraient depuis longtemps.

Le 22 août 1956 fut une journée mémorable pour notre famille, car nous fêtions le 50ième anniversaire de mariage de nos parents. Il y eut messe chantée par le Père Campagna, curé de la paroisse, et à laquelle assistait son Excellence Mgr Routhier qui fit aussi l'allocution de circonstance. Le banquet qui suivit réunissait parents et amis venus de proche et de loin. La présence de trois soeurs, de deux frères et d'un beau-frère de maman, venus de l'Est et de sa soeur de Debden, Saskatchewan remplit de joie toute la famille. Cette journée familiale se termina par le Salut du Saint-Sacrement à 5:30 p.m. et on se donna rendez-vous pour les Noces de Diamant.

A l'automne 1956, papa et maman firent déménager leur maison au village, non loin de l'église. C'est là qu'ils désiraient passer les der-



Noces d'or de M. et Mme Lambert.

nières années de leur vie. Ces années ne furent pas vides. Ils continuèrent à s'intéresser aux activités de la paroisse, à y participer, à aider quand ils le pouvaient. Leur foyer était une maison d'accueil et d'amitié. Ils étaient spécialement honorés quand des prêtres ou des religieuses venaient les visiter. Durant ces années aussi, ils profitèrent de leur retraite pour voyager, mais c'était toujours pour visiter leurs deux fils et leur famille à Maillardville, B.C., ou leurs parentés en Saskatchewan ou dans l'Est.

En 1966, ils se virent entourés de tous leurs enfants, petits-enfants et arrière-petits-enfants et de beaucoup de parents et d'amis à l'occasion de leurs Noces de Diamant. Il y eut messe et banquet, rehaussés par la présence de Son Excellence Mgr Routhier. Félicitations, souhaits, cadeaux furent offerts. Suivit d'une intéressante soirée où tous, jeunes et vieux, s'amuserent ensemble, au son de la musique jouée par Melvin et Mervin Brulotte, Roy Turner et Delphis Brulotte.

À l'automne 1967, alors âgés de 84 et 82 ans, voyant leur santé décliner, ils décidèrent de déménager chez leur fille Gilberte qui demeurerait non loin d'eux au village de Guy. Gilberte et son mari firent annexer à leur maison, par un passage chauffé, une rallonge qui leur donnait une chambre à coucher et un petit salon bien à eux. Ils y déménagèrent le 21 octobre. C'est là qu'ils vécurent leurs derniers mois ensemble.

Au temps de Noël de cette même années, Omer et René avec leurs épouses vinrent de Maillardville pour revoir leur père car la maladie faisait rapidement son oeuvre en lui. Ce fut une grande consolation pour lui de voir, autour de son lit de malade, ses enfants tous réunis et de les bénir une dernière fois. Omer et René durent retourner chez eux après les fêtes pour reprendre leur travail. Au matin du 13 janvier, jour de sa fête, il s'endormait paisiblement dans le Seigneur. Ses funérailles eurent lieu le 16 janvier, célébrées par Mgr Routhier, et il fut inhumé dans le cimetière de Guy.

Ce départ, le premier dans notre famille, fut bien pénible. Papa avait toujours été pour nous un exemple de foi, de dévouement, de vie catholique et française. Il aimait cette paroisse qu'il avait aidé à fonder et pour laquelle il avait donné de son temps et de ses talents.

La mort de papa a laissé un grand vide dans la vie de maman. Elle continua à vivre dans son petit appartement. Elle aidait Gilberte pour certains petits travaux, aimait faire des couvrepieds, visitait ses enfants, allait à l'église pour la messe le dimanche tant qu'elle fut capa-



Famille à l'occasion des noces de diamant de M. et Mme Lambert. R.1 Aurèle, Elmire. R.2 Gilberte, Sr Germaine, Carméline. R.3 Maurice, Raoul, Omer, René.

ble. Elle aimait beaucoup recevoir la visite de ses petits-enfants et arrière-petits-enfants. Mais ses forces diminuaient graduellement. Peu après son 88ième anniversaire, elle tomba malade. Au soir du 9 avril 1973, le Seigneur la rappela à Lui, pendant la messe que le Père Frigon, alors curé, célébrait pour elle dans la maison même de Gilberte, où nous étions réunis. Elle nous a quittés, après une vie très laborieuse. Sur son chemin, elle avait toujours donné l'exemple du devoir accompli, de l'oubli d'elle-même, de dévouement envers sa famille. Que de souvenirs inoubliables elle nous a laissés! Elle repose maintenant tout près de papa dans le cimetière de Guy.

Aurèle Lambert et Elmire Brulotte eurent sept enfants:

1. Maurice: n.11-04-1908 m.25-11-1936 à Rose-Anna Lemay: n.30-5-1915 (Voir Lambert, Maurice)
2. Omer: n.8-1-1910 m.11-8-1943
Thérèse Lemay: n.4-3-1922 (Voir Lambert, Omer)
3. Carméline: n.16-4-11 m.8-2-1939
Robert Bourgeois: n.27-2-1910 (Voir Bourgeois, Robert)
4. Raoul: n.26-8-1912 m.27-1-1943
Rose de Lima Lemay: n.5-2-1920 (Voir Lambert, Raoul)
5. Germaine: n.21-10-1914
entrée en religion le 5-9-1933 chez les Soeurs de Sainte-Croix
6. Gilberte: n.2-5-1917 m.24-11-1947
Aimé Lemay: n.14-2-1917 (Voir Lemay, Aimé)

7. *René: n.6-1-1920 m.3-7-1946*
Cécile Lemay: n.29-3-1927 (Voir Lambert, René)

* * *

As was the fashion in the early nineteen hundreds, many Québécois spoke of venturing to the Canadian West. Father and his brother Zoël decided to head out to examine the possibilities of a better life. They arrived at Debden, Saskatchewan in 1912 where our father took a homestead. His brother was not interested and so returned East. Father also went back but only to get his wife Elmire and their four children. During their fifteen-year stay in Debden, they added three more children to their family.

In the late 1920's, Henri Percheron, a former resident of Debden, returned home speaking with enthusiasm of the vast and beautiful Peace River area. He mentioned how easy it was to obtain homesteads close to one another. Our father, wanting to build solid futures for his sons, felt this was a great opportunity. The fact that one of Mother's cousins (Frederick Brulotte) had settled there, made the move an easier proposition.

On April 12, 1928, Father and his two oldest sons, Maurice and Omer, arrived in Falher where they were heartily welcomed by Frederick. Father spent time visiting and examining the land before making the decision to file for a homestead fourteen miles south of Donnelly. Maurice and Omer each filed for property neighboring Father's land. The terrain looked promising as it was flat, could easily be cleared of trees, and there were little or no rocks to be picked. So, Father returned to Debden to sell his property and to pick up his family.

The entire family arrived in Falher on April 28, 1928. Fred rented us his land, his agricultural equipment and his horses. Fred also owned a lumber mill which later proved very useful in obtaining the lumber necessary for farm buildings. Our family spent two years living with Fred and cultivating his land. When they had time, Father and the boys went to their homesteads to clear the land and to build a shack large enough to accommodate the family.

Finally, on February 28, 1931, the family, with the exception of Germaine, settled on the new homestead in our log shack. A nephew of Father's lived with us. (Raymond Cloutier)

In August 1931, a new two-story house was ready to welcome the Lambert family. The old shack was then used as a chapel by Father Mallet who celebrated Mass there on several occasions.

Like many of the pioneers of this era, we suffered from the economic depression but we always managed to make ends meet. We scrimped and saved and worked very hard! A large garden provided the vegetables, the chickens gave us eggs and poultry, while the cows gave the milk to drink and to make butter. Wild game such as moose, deer, prairie chickens, ducks and rabbits were prepared with taste by our mother. Dessert often consisted of wild berries which we picked and canned for the coming winter.

Getting water was a problem. The men had to cut blocks of ice from the river which they then transported by sleigh to an ice house in our yard. The icehouse not only kept the ice frozen, but was also used much as we use a refrigerator today.

Despite the hard times, we were happy for we were surrounded by people who offered us friendship, hospitality and a helping hand! On Sunday afternoons, great fun was had by all who visited the Lambert homestead. We played softball in the afternoon then in the evening we played cards. On week nights, our time was spent working around the house by the light of an oil lamp. Much knitting, crocheting and mending took place during these evenings. Before retiring for the night, everyone knelt down to pray as a family.

When a new law was passed in 1931 authorizing settlers to cut lumber for construction on their own land and allowing women to file for a homestead, Mother, Carmeline and Germaine did so. Mother's homestead, a very picturesque site located on the hills of the little Smoky, provided an ideal place to build a log shack. This idyllic spot was used by the men in the winter when they went to cut ice on the river and in the summer the entire family went there for picnics.

In December 1931, a post office named Forest View was established in our house and Father became its postmaster. The mail was delivered from Falher once a week by the mailman, Mr. Sidoroff. When he left his job, Father took over. At first, he travelled by horse and wagon, (caboose in winter) and later on he was able to afford a Model T truck which made the trips much easier. Father did this job until 1952.

Our family was greatly involved in the foundation and organization of the budding community. In the early days, Father and the boys participated as much as possible in the bees organized to clear the land set aside for building a church. After it was built, they also were there to cut wood for heating the church and the rectory. Our father sat on the school board, was a church trustee and also a choir master. Both our parents

enjoyed contributing to the activities of the parish.

Upon returning from a trip to Québec and the East in 1946, they were surprised and extremely pleased to note that a cross had been erected at the intersection of their land. They had long wished for this to be done.

In the fall of 1956, our parents had their house moved into Guy itself. This is where they wished to spend their remaining years together. They continued to remain interested in the parish happenings. Their's was a home where everyone was welcome and they were especially honored to welcome visiting priests and nuns. Mother and Father took advantage of their retirement to travel, mostly to Maillardville, B.C. and to the province of Québec where they visited their relatives.

Seeing their health begin to deteriorate, Mother and Father moved in with their daughter Gilberte in 1967. Gilberte and her husband added a bedroom and sitting room to their house which provided our parents with their own private domain. This is where they spent their final days together.

Father passed away on his birthday, January 13, 1968. His funeral services were sung by Bishop Routhier. Father was laid to rest in the Guy cemetery.

Father's death left a tremendous void in Mother's life as she continued to live alone in her small apartment. She kept busy helping Gilberte, making bedspreads, going to church and visiting her children. Shortly after her 88th birthday she became ill and on the evening of April 9, 1973, God called her home. She lies next to her husband in the Guy cemetery.

LAMBERT, EUGENE & CHAUVIN, THERESE 2M. SEVERSON, ELAINE

par Marie Lambert Pitre

Joseph Eugène Lambert est né le 20 octobre 1943 à l'hôpital Miséricorde d'Edmonton. Eugène fut adopté par M. et Mme. Maurice Lambert le 1er février 1945.

Eugène reçut la majeure partie de son éducation à Guy à l'école Langlois. Il résida au couvent Notre Dame de Fatima de Guy. Ses dernières années scolaires furent au collège Notre Dame de la Paix à Falher. Après ses années scolaires, Eugène fut employé comme conducteur de camion et opérateur de "backhoe". Eugène se maria avec Thérèse Chauvin le 16 décembre 1967. Ils eurent deux enfants, Joscelyne et Michelle.

Eugène se maria en secondes noces le 3



R.1 Tammy Lynn. R.2 Edward et Angelina. R.3 Eugène et Elaine Lambert.

février 1973 à Elaine Severson. Ils eurent deux enfants, Edward et Angelina. Eugène est décédé accidentellement le 31 décembre 1978 à l'âge de 35 ans. Il était à ce moment employé comme opérateur de "backhoe". Eugène repose en paix au cimetière de St-Guy.

Eugène Lambert: n. 23-10-1943

m. 16-12-1967

d. 31-12-1978

Thérèse Chauvin:

Enfants:

1) Joscelyne: n. 20-05-1968

2) Michelle: n. 13-01-1971

2m. 03-02-1973 à Elaine Severson

Enfants:

1) Edward: n. 03-12-1973

2) Angelina: n. 01-12-1975

3) Tammy Lynn: n. 09-08-1968 (Adoptée)

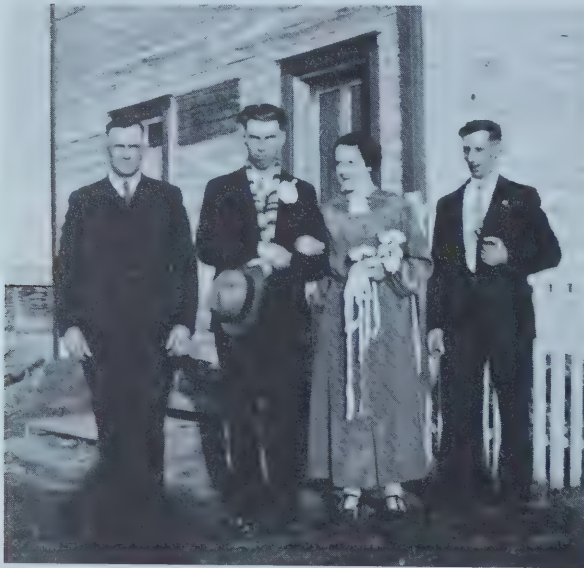
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Eugène was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Lambert February 1, 1945. He got his education in Guy and Falher. He was a truck driver and backhoe operator. He died accidentally at the age of 35.

LAMBERT, MAURICE & LEMAY, ROSE ANNA

raconté par Maurice Lambert

Fils aîné d'Aurèle Lambert (1883-1968) et de Elmire Brulotte (1885-1973), je suis né à St-Fortunat, comté Wolfe, P.Q., le 11 avril 1908. J'avais cinq ans quand mes parents décidèrent de venir tenter fortune dans l'Ouest Canadien. Après un séjour d'une quinzaine d'années à Debden, Sask., notre famille déménagea en 1928 dans la région de Rivière La Paix où on avait su qu'il y avait du terrain à défricher. Pour dix dollars, on pouvait prendre un "homestead" de cent-soixante acres. Avec mon père et mes frères, j'ai pris un "homestead", le SE 24-75-21-W5. Pendant deux ans, je demeurais avec la famille à Falher, chez Fred Brulotte qui nous avait loué sa ferme. Quand nous en avions le temps, nous venions faire du défrichement sur nos terres à Guy.



Aurèle, Maurice, Rose Anna Lambert, Eugène Lemay.

En 1931-32, quand ce fut le temps de construire l'église, j'ai travaillé avec d'autres volontaires au déboisement du terrain pour la construction et au défrichement pour faire des chemins. Nous faisons du bois de poêle avec les arbres.

Plus tard, j'ai travaillé pour M. Léonard Paquette et c'est là, à Donnelly, que j'ai fait la connaissance de celle qui devait devenir ma compagne pour la vie, Rose Anna Lemay, fille aînée de Eugène Lemay et Anna Poulin, née le 30 mai 1915, à St-Paul, AB. M. l'Abbé Gagnon bénit notre mariage le 25 novembre 1936. Nous avons d'abord demeuré dans la maison de mon

cousin, Raymond Cloutier, dont la terre était voisine de la mienne puis, je me suis bâti une maison sur ma terre. Comme la plupart des fermiers de ce temps, nous faisons la culture mixte. Nous avions des vaches, des cochons et des poules. Je cultivais ma terre avec des chevaux. Plus tard, en 1948, j'ai acheté un tracteur et en 1951 un moulin à battre.

Après quelques années de mariage, n'ayant pas d'enfants et désirant une famille, nous avons adopté deux enfants en bas âge, Eugène en 1945 et Marie en 1947. Au long de notre vie conjugale, Rose Anna était souvent malade et dut faire de nombreux séjours à l'hôpital. Mais elle était une femme de courage et de prière, et avec un grand esprit de foi et de confiance en Dieu, elle élevait nos deux enfants, prenait soin de sa maison et me secondait dans mon travail autant qu'elle le pouvait.



Marie, Rose Anna, Maurice, Eugène.

Vers 1955, Rose Anna, Eugène et Marie prirent chacun un "homestead". Ceux-ci étaient au sud de la petite rivière Smoky, à peu près à quatorze milles de Guy. En 1966, nous avons acheté l'ancien presbytère de Guy et l'avons fait transporter sur le "homestead" de Rose Anna, le NE 32-73-21-W5. Après l'avoir installé, nous en avons fait notre demeure, graduellement nous l'avons rénové et agrandi. Puis en 1968, nous avons vendu notre première ferme à Richard Bourgeois.

En 1976 nous avons vendu nos terres à notre fille Marie et gendre John Tally qui étaient installés dans la même cour que nous et avons pris notre retraite. Cependant j'ai continué à aider au travail de la ferme avec John. Cette année-là

nous avons fait un voyage de deux mois et demi dans l'Est du Canada et des Etats-Unis pour connaître et visiter la parenté et le pays de nos ancêtres. Ce fut un voyage inoubliable. Nos nombreux voyages en Colombie et en Saskatchewan pour visiter parents et amis furent aussi d'heureux événements de notre vie, de même que la grande réunion des Brulottes en 1982 à Yakima, Washington.

En 1978 l'épreuve est venue frapper à notre porte, alors qu'on se préparait à fêter le Jour de l'An avec notre famille. Le 30 décembre, notre fils Eugène perdait la vie dans un accident de travail. Treize mois plus tard, le 30 janvier 1980, ce fut notre gendre John Tally qui mourut, lui aussi, à la suite d'un accident à son travail.

A l'automne 1981, nos parents et amis se réunissaient pour fêter notre 45ième anniversaire de mariage. Après une messe d'actions de grâce, on descendit au sous-sol de l'église pour passer ensemble une agréable soirée. Puis on se quittait en se donnant rendez-vous pour les Noces d'Or en 1986. Mais dans les desseins de Dieu, cela ne devait pas arriver.



R.1 Angelina Lambert, Joanne Tally, Edward Lambert. R.2 Michelle Lambert, Dwayne Tally, Rose Anna, Maurice, Tammy et Jocelyne Lambert.

Le 30 janvier 1985, le Seigneur rappelait à lui mon épouse Rose Anna. Elle était prête. Ces dernières années, la souffrance ne la laissait guère et elle parlait souvent de la mort. Elle la voyait venir avec calme et soumission à la Volonté de Dieu qu'elle s'était efforcée d'accomplir toute sa vie. Ses funérailles eurent lieu le 5 février et elle fut inhumée dans le cimetière de Guy. Sa mort subite fut très douloureuse pour

moi. Depuis, je vis seul dans ma petite maison, mais je sais que de là-haut, elle continue à m'aider et à prier pour moi et pour notre famille.

Maurice Lambert: n.11-04-1908 m.25-11-1936

Rose Anna Lemay: n.30-05-1915 d.30-01-1985

ENFANTS:

1- Eugène: n. 20-08-1943 (adopté le 01-02-1945) d. 30-12-1978

1m.: Thérèse Chauvin le 16-12-1967. Deux enfants, Jocelyne et Michelle.

2m.: Elaine Severson le 03-02-1973. Trois enfants, Tammie (adopté), Edward et Angelina.

2- Marie: n. 23-01-1946 adopté le 14-08-1947

1m.: John Tally: n. 12-12-1930 m.17-12-1966 d.30-01-1980

Deux enfants: Dwayne et Joanne.

2m.: Philippe Pitre: m. 25-02-1984

* * *

Maurice was born in Québec, and in 1914, at the age of 5 years, came to Debden, Sask., with his family. The Aurèle Lambert family lived in Saskatchewan till 1928. Having heard of the nice homesteads in the Peace River country, the family moved to Falher. They immediately filed homesteads where previous fires had cleared a lot of bush.

In the spring of 1931, a house had been built on father's farm, so the family moved to Guy. There, each boy having his own homestead, cleared some land on each quarter for the required improvements.

In 1936, I married Rose Anna Lemay, of Donnelly, and we lived in Raymond Cloutier's log shack, while we built ourselves a house on our own land. As beginners we struggled and got ourselves a few cattle, hogs, chickens and with a garden we managed to make a living.

Unfortunately, we had no children of our own, so in 1945 we adopted a son, Eugene, and in 1947 a daughter, Marie. In 1978 a very sad accident claimed the life of our son, at work, on New Year's Eve. Then, in January of 1980, another cruel accident claimed our son-in-law's life, while he was working as foreman on a bridge.

Then in January of 1985, the saddest of all, my wife was called suddenly to her eternal rest. She had been ill and suffering for many years.

I am still living on the farm that I sold to my daughter, in my own house, close to my daughter, her second husband and two children.

LAMBERT, OMER & LEMAY, THERESE

par Thérèse et Omer

Omer est né à St-Fortunat, Québec le 8 janvier 1910. Il arriva à Falher avec sa famille, Aurèle Lambert, en avril 1928. Ils déménagèrent à Guy en 1931, où ils avaient acquis des "homesteads."

Le 11 août 1943, il épousa Thérèse Lemay, née le 4 mars 1922, fille d'Eugène Lemay. Comme moyen de transport et pour faire la culture, Omer avait cinq mules de grande endurance et qui préféraient avoir le même charretier. Elles ne se laissaient pas conduire par n'importe qui.

La ferme ne donnant pas assez de revenu, Omer allait dans le chantier de son frère, Raoul, l'hiver. Sa femme Thérèse aidait à la cuisine.

En 1953 un oncle et tante de Maillardville vinrent rendre visite à la famille Lemay. Vu que la perspective de salaire semblait meilleure là-bas, Omer et Thérèse vendirent les terres et partirent pour la Colombie Britannique avec leurs cinq enfants. Deux des frères de Thérèse, Adolphe et Roland Lemay partirent avec eux.



R.1 Gérard, Jean, Robert, Jeannine, Lucille. R.2 Omer, Thérèse Lambert, Adolphe et Roland Lemay. Départ pour Maillardville en 1953.

Omer a travaillé presque immédiatement dans un moulin à scie; ce qu'il fit jusqu'à l'âge de 63 ans. Sa santé n'étant pas assez bonne, il a dû prendre sa retraite un peu plus tôt.

A Maillardville, deux autres enfants sont nés. En plus de leur famille, ils ont ouvert leur maison à de petits enfants dans le besoin, des bébés, de jeunes enfants et des adolescents. Pendant dix ans, Mme Lemay demeura avec la famille d'Omer et Thérèse. Ce fut la maison maternelle pour la famille à Maillardville.

La famille venait visiter à Guy très souvent et les souvenirs des années passées à Guy ne sont jamais partis de leurs coeurs.

En 1983, le désir de venir passer encore quelques années avec leurs frères et soeurs et amis les ont ramenés à High Prairie, pour être plus près d'eux.

Omer Lambert; n.08-01-1910 m.11-08-1943

Thérèse Lemay; n.04-03-1922

ENFANTS:

1. Lucille; n.20-08-1944 m.
Llew Baker. (Maillardville)
 - a) Charles; n.27-12-1967 (adopté)
 - b) Charlene; n.10-07-1969
 - c) Patricia; n.25-03-1973
2. Gérard; n.07-10-1945 m.
Mavis Cunningham. Veuve avec six enfants.
Ils demeurent à Kathleen.
3. Jean; n.18-05-1948 m.
Kathy Hammond. (Terrace, C.B.)
 - a) Dennis; n.25-06-1977
 - b) James; n.05-07-1978
 - c) Jonathan; n.14-04-1981
4. Jeannine; n.18-05-1948 m.
Jim Dooks. (Delta, C.B.)
 - a) James; n.12-11-1969
 - b) Jason; n.08-06-1972
5. Robert; n.10-01-1950 m.
Marguerite Amero. (Maillardville)
 - a) Darren; n.14-05-1973
 - b) Jesse Anne; n.21-09-1975
6. Dianne; n.21-02-1954 m.
Roger Vine. (Maillardville)
 - a) Paula; n.04-02-1977
 - b) Crystal; n.10-11-1983
7. Denis; n.02-01-1965 m.
Chantal Lalonde. (High Prairie, AB.)
 - a) Daniel; n.18-01-1984
 - b) Eric; n.29-05-1986

* * *

Omer arrived in Falher with his parents in 1928 from St.Fortunat, P.Q. Having filed on SE 23-75-21-W5 in 1931, he took residence there.

He married Thérèse Lemay on August 11, 1943. He cultivated his farm with five mules. These were very tough, and he did a lot of work with them.

As the revenue from the farm was not enough, and having heard of salaries being better in B.C., Omer and Thérèse decided to sell everything and moved to Maillardville, with their five children. Shortly after his arrival, Omer got a job in a sawmill and worked there until he retired at the age of 63.

In 1983, they decided to come and live close

to their brothers and sisters. So they moved back to the area, and they are presently living in High Prairie.

LAMBERT, RAOUL & LEMAY, ROSE DE LIMA

par Rose de Lima Lambert

Raoul naquit à St-Fortunat, Québec le 26 août 1912. Il arriva dans l'Ouest avec ses parents, à l'âge, d'un an et demi. Ils ont demeurés quelques années à Debden, Sask., puis en 1928 sont arrivés à Falher. En 1931 ils ont déménagé sur leur "homestead" à Guy. Il fut toujours très habile dans la forge, la mécanique, la menuiserie, enfin à peu près n'importe quel travail.



Première bâtisse démenagée par Raoul. Il s'agit de leur maison démenagée de la ferme au village.

Il se construisit un moulin à scie avec toutes sortes de ferraille qu'il se procurait ici et là et qu'il refaisait à la demande. Il est même allé, à cheval jusqu'à McLennan, les chemins n'étant pas trop bons, pour y chercher une scie ronde pour son moulin. Après que son moulin fut en marche, il scia pour les gens qui apportaient leurs billots. Si un fermier avait un assez gros montant de bois, il démenageait son moulin là. C'est quand il sciait chez M. Desbarnais, qu'il a été frappé par un deux par quatre, en plein front; mais heureusement il échappa à la mort que de près, mais ça ne l'a pas empêché de retourner à sa besogne.

Le vingt-sept janvier 1943, il épousa, Rose de Lima Lemay, née à Vegreville, Alberta. Nous avons demeuré, dans la maison de Robert Bourgeois, près des parents de Raoul, où il a continué son travail de forgeron, dans l'atelier de son père, tout en cultivant son terrain.

Chaque lundi était "journée de moulée". Raoul utilisait un engin de Ford Model T pour tourner une moulange à meule. Les fermiers

venaient à tour de rôle avec leurs voyages de grains et retournaient avec une charge de moulée pour soigner les animaux.

Raoul avait toujours voulu aller dans les chantiers, et son rêve se réalisa, car à l'automne de 1944, il prit un contrat avec la Compagnie McRae et il déménagea son moulin à Faust, AB., et ce fut le commencement des chantiers. Cet hiver là les employés étaient un petit groupe d'hommes de Guy. Il y avait son frère, Omer avec sa femme Thérèse qui m'aidait à la cuisine, mes frères Aimé et Paul Lemay, Eddie Gagné, Irené Soucy et Doria Landry.



R.1 Gisèle, Rita. R.2 Norman, Lucienne. R.3 Thelma, Rose de Lima, Patricia. R.4 Henri, Raoul, Roger.

Chaque automne, aussitôt les récoltes terminées nous partions pour les chantiers et revenions à la fonte des neiges le printemps, pour nous préparer, pour les semences. En 1948 on fit chantier à Whitemud, où tous les employés coupèrent, en corvée, le bois pour la construction du couvent à Guy.

Le Rev. Père Lechasseur faisait partie de la corvée, et ce ne fut pas long que la planche fut transportée à Guy. D'une année à l'autre, Raoul améliorait son moulin, jusqu'au point où nous employions quarante hommes. Je m'occupais toujours de faire la cuisine pour nourrir la majorité de ces gens. Il y en avait qui amenaient leur famille ce qui faisait comme un

petit village. Je faisais aussi la tenue des livres. Ce fut une bien dure besogne, car avec de jeunes enfants, les nuits étaient souvent écorchées, et la santé n'était pas toujours des meilleures. Mais on voulait s'amasser des biens, alors on faisait de son mieux. Que de nuits Raoul a passées sans se coucher pour réparer soit le moulin où la machinerie qui brisait. Il fallait être prêt à rouler le lendemain matin. La majorité de nos employés étaient des gens de Guy, et des environs, alors nous avions bien du plaisir les fins de semaines, car dans le groupe nous avions des musiciens. Aussi, nous étions chanceux, car assez souvent, des prêtres venaient célébrer la sainte messe.

En 1957 j'étais bien fatiguée de déménager deux fois par année, alors j'ai décidé que je ne voulais plus aller dans les chantiers. Raoul est allé avec un groupe dans un chantier co-opératif, mais ce ne fut pas un succès et ce fut la fin des chantiers.

Comme la ferme n'était pas suffisante pour aider à établir nos garçons, Raoul se lança dans le déménagement de bâtisses. La première fut notre maison qu'on déménagea de la ferme au village de Guy, juste en arrière de l'église. Il déménagea des centaines de bâtisses, ce qui l'occupait à plein temps.

En 1963 nous avons vendu notre terre et sommes déménagés au sud de la rivière Little Smoky, afin de s'agrandir en terrain, pour pouvoir établir les garçons.

Nous avons trouvé beaucoup de consolations à nous dévouer pour la paroisse. J'ai été plusieurs années présidente des Dames Ste Anne, membre du comité liturgique. J'aimais aider à l'organisation des bazars et des pique-niques.

Nous avons eu la douleur de perdre notre petit Raymond, âgé de sept mois, en 1948. Le croup faisait ravage dans la paroisse cet été là.

Nous avons toujours bien aimé les enfants. En 1962, alors que notre plus jeune avait dix ans, nous avons pris en pension un petit garçon, Norman, âgé de trois semaines. En juillet 1963 nous avons pris Patricia, huit mois et en décembre de la même année, Thelma, six mois. Nous les avons toujours gardés, et ils font partie de notre famille.

Environ quarante autres petits enfants sont demeurés avec nous, à tour de rôle, pour des périodes de quelques jours à quelques mois. C'était très consolant de pouvoir aider ces petits.

En 1974 nous avons laissé les garçons, Henri et Roger, sur les fermes. Nous avons déménagé des bâtisses jusqu'en 1974, alors que Raoul

déménagea sa dernière maison, celle que nous habitons présentement, à High Prairie.

Raoul Lambert; n.26-08-1912 m.27-01-1943

Rose de Lima Lemay; n.05-02-1920

ENFANTS:

1. *Lucienne; n.18-02-1944 m.01-07-1963*
Jacques Pitre. (Girouxville)
 - a) *Richard; n.14-07-1964*
 - b) *Linda; n.26-11-1969*
2. *Henri; n.10-10-1945 m.14-04-1969*
Lilianne Dubé. (Valleyview)
 - a) *Louise; n.06-03-1970*
 - b) *Nicole; n.05-10-1971*
 - c) *Marc; n.07-09-1975*
3. *Raymond; n.17-11-1946 d.30-06-1947*
4. *Roger; n.10-05-1948 m.18-04-1969*
Cécile Roy (Voir Lambert, Roger)
5. *Rita; n.03-10-1950 m.03-10-1970*
Louis Fournier. (Tangent)
 - a) *Suzanne; n.18-11-1975*
 - b) *Dianne; n.13-02-1978*
6. *Gisele; n.08-02-1952 m.23-12-1973*
Claude Hébert. (High Prairie)
 - a) *Jean; n.11-06-1974*
 - b) *Gérard; n.29-03-1976*
7. *Norman; n.28-03-1962 (adopted)*
8. *Patricia; n.21-11-1962 (adopted)*
 - a) *Keith; n.21-04-1980*
9. *Thelma; n.29-05-1963 (adopted)*
m.23-08-1985
Russel Lockhead. (High Prairie)
 - a) *Lynne n.23-01-1979*
 - b) *Nicole; n.06-03-1986*

* * *

Raoul came from Québec with his family in 1913, to live in Debden, Saskatchewan. In 1928 the Aurèle Lambert family moved to Falher. In 1931 the homesite on the Guy homestead was ready.

At the time homesteads were still available in the Guy area, so every Lambert boy, including Raoul, filed on some land.

In January 1943, Raoul and I were united in marriage, in Guy, and went to live on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -25-75-21-W5th, two and half miles from church. A few years later we were fortunate enough to be able to file on the 120 acres, the remaining part of the quarter where the church is situated. In 1950 we moved our house there, to be closer to school, as our little ones were getting of school age. Our three oldest ones obtained all their schooling in Guy. Then the High School moved to Donnelly, so the youngest ones completed their education there.

In 1963, we sold this farm and moved south, across the Smoky River to SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -4-74-21-W5

wanting more land for the two boys. In 1974 we left the farms to the boys, who were now married, and we moved to High Prairie. We are now retired and live in the last house that Raoul moved, while operating his house moving business.

LAMBERT, RENE & LEMAY, CECILE

par Cécile Lambert

René Lambert, fils d'Aurèle Lambert et d'Elmire Brulotte est né le 6 janvier 1920, à Debden, Saskatchewan. Il s'est marié à Cécile Lemay, fille d'Eugène Lemay et de Anna Poulin, née à Vegreville, Alberta.

Notre mariage eut lieu à Guy, Alberta, le 3 juillet 1946. J'étais la quatrième fille Lemay qui mariait un Lambert.

René avait pris un "homestead" vers 1938, le NE12-75-21.

Les huit premières années de notre mariage, nous avons demeuré dans la cour des parents de René, où nous avons bâti une petite maison. René aidait son père sur la ferme. Vers 1948 René acheta la terre de son père.

Après quelques années, notre petite famille augmentant nous avons échangé de maison avec eux. Plus tard, M. Lambert fit déménager sa petite maison au village.



R.1 Lyne, Cécile, René, Denise. R.2 Paul, Yvonne, Roger, Marcel, Yvette, Roland Lambert.

Nous avons continué à cultiver jusqu'en 1954. Cette année-là, nous avons décidé de déménager à Maillardville C.B. où Omer était déjà rendu avec sa famille. Nous avons loué nos terres à Aimé Lemay et nous sommes partis avec nos cinq enfants.

René a tout de suite trouvé de l'ouvrage dans un moulin à scie et il travaillait aussi comme

ouvrier. Il a dû travailler fort pour faire vivre sa famille.

Pendant nos premières années en Colombie nous nous sommes beaucoup ennuyés de nos familles. Aussi ce fut un grand bonheur pour nous de retourner pour les Noces d'Or de M. et Mme Lambert et aussi pour leur Noces de Diamant en 1966.

Quand les enfants furent assez agés, j'ai moi-même travaillé dans un hôpital pour augmenter nos revenus.



René Lambert avec une charge de glace.

Nous sommes maintenant à notre retraite et toujours heureux de retourner à Guy aussi souvent que possible.

René Lambert; n.06-01-1920 m.03-07-1946

Cécile Lemay; n.29-03-1927

ENFANTS:

1. Marcel; n.09-05-1947
2. Yvette; n.01-10-1948 m.09-03-1962
Vincent Nicola; n.18-10-1946.
 - a) Lise; n.13-08-1968
 - b) Damien; n.10-05-1974
3. Denise; n.19-02-1950 m.05-06-1971
James Nicoll; n.06-06-1949.
 - a) Eric; n.24-11-1973
 - b) James; n.31-07-1975
 - c) Carl; n.12-12-1976
4. Paul; n.03-09-1951 m.17-02-1973
Suzan Stewart; n.23-06-1952.
 - a) Patricia; n.13-03-1974
 - b) Richard; n.30-12-1975
5. Roland; n.01-01-1954 m.28-01-1978
Jocelyn Barnabé; n.24-01-1956
 - a) Jadrien; n.30-12-1981
6. Yvonne; n.30-04-1955 m.26-10-1973
Fraser Manson; n.17-06-1953.
 - a) Zachary; n.21-03-1977
 - b) Rachel; n.15-12-1980
 - c) Danielle; n.13-01-1983

7. *Lynne*; n.26-12-1957 m.08-04-1978
Rodney Short; n.20-08-1956
 a) *Kirsten*; n.15-02-1985 d.16-02-1985
 b) *Kirsten-Lynne*; n.08-04-1986
 8. *Roger*; n.30-12-1960 m.30-04-1983
Heather Bull.

* * *

René, the youngest of the family, was born in Debden, Saskatchewan, in 1920. With his family he moved from Saskatchewan in 1928, to become a resident in Guy.

On July 3, 1946 he married, Cecile Lemay. We lived in the same yard as René's parents, to help with the farming. His Dad was postmaster, and transporting delivering the mail from Falher three times a week to Ballater, Guy and Forest View.

In 1948 we bought the farm and René's parents moved their house to the hamlet of Guy. In 1954, we decided to move to Maillardville, B.C. to try and make an easier living. Réne immediately found a job in a sawmill. He worked very hard, till his health failed and he had to take early retirement. We are still living in Maillardville, with our family around us.

LAMBERT, ROGER & ROY, CECILE

par Cécile Lambert

Le 10 mai 1948 est né le 4ième enfant de Raoul et Rose de Lima Lambert. Roger est né à McLennan. Il a passé ses huit premières années dans les chantiers de son père à Reno. Il a fait sa première année à Donnelly et a complété son éducation à l'école Langlois de Guy. Roger a demeuré à Guy sur le terrain au sud de l'Eglise pendant 14 ans. En 1961 il déménagea avec ses parents à Whitemud. Après avoir terminé son école il a aidé son père à déménager des bâtisses tout en défrichant et cultivant ses terres.

Le 18 avril 1969 il épousa Cécile Roy de Falher, qui dans ce temps-là était secrétaire à la coopérative de Falher. Ils ont deux enfants: Lorraine et Michel. Ils ont passé des années heureuses sur leur ferme à Fish Creek.

Roger Lambert: n. 10-05-1948
 m. 18-04-1969

Cécile Roy: n. 19-06-1949

Enfants:

1) Lorraine: n. 21-07-1970

2) Michel: n. 29-03-1973

* * *

Roger spent his first eight years at his father's

lumber camp in Reno. He went to school in Donnelly (gr I) and Guy. In 1961 he moved to Whitemud with his parents. After his schooling he helped his father move buildings still breaking land and cultivating.

His wife was secretary of Falher Co-op when he married.

LAPENSEE, PHILIP (SAM) & COTE, HELEN

by Sam Lapensée

I was born in Killam, AB. on June 13, 1922. At the age of five we moved to Loughheed, AB., where I started school in 1928.

In 1928 we moved north to Falher, AB. where we spent the depression years of the thirties. I quit school in grade eleven in 1940 and the following year joined the R.C.A.F. I spent most of the war, training in Canada and in 1944 was transferred to Torbay, Newfoundland with No 1 Air Sea Rescue Squadron. I was there when the war ended in May 1945.



Sam's Gravel Pit, Betty & Cecile Boisvert, Jules Bourgeois & Jos Boisvert.

Newfoundland was not a province at that time. It was an English colony, so serving there was considered overseas.

I returned to Canada in September and was transferred to the R.C.A.F. Reserve.

I came back to Falher where I opened a jewelry store which I operated on and off until 1970.

In 1949 I filed on a Veteran's Homestead lease in the Whitemud area N-1/2-13-75-23-W5.

In 1952 I married Helen, daughter of Leo Cote. That same summer we moved to the farm to start opening land for cultivation. I managed to open 70 acres the first year and in the fall I returned to Falher to operate the jewelry store. In the spring of 1954 we again returned to the farm to open more land and cultivate the acres cleared the previous year.

On August 2nd we had a harrowing experience. We were on the farm and as Helen began having labor pains for our second child, we hurried to get her to the hospital. Arriving at the ferry crossing we found out that the river was flooding and the ferry was not operating. All the approaches were flooded and the driftwood was passing by. The ferry was on the opposite side of the river. I managed to get the ferryman's attention and signalled that this was an emergency, but he wouldn't take the risk of crossing the ferry because he was a new operator. Being a powerful swimmer I dove in fully clothed and swam across. After quite an argument with the operator he decided to cross the ferry with my help. It was impossible for me to drive my truck onto the ferry so I had to carry Helen and Shirley, our little girl, to the ferry and cross to the north side of the river.



R.1 Helen, Wendy, Philip (Sam). R.2 Yvette, Wayne, Shirley, Martin, Denise.

We were very fortunate that Jules Bourgeois had just pulled up with his car so we got a ride to Falher. Mrs. Terry Vandal drove Helen to High Prairie and Denise was born the next morning, August 3rd.

I continued to farm but discontinued doing residential duties. Although I had fulfilled the acreage requirements, we consequently lost our land.

Hundreds of War Veterans were faced with the same fate, leaving most of us bitter memories of the provincial lease residence regulations. This regulation has been discontinued.

After the death of Jos Vincelette in 1964 we purchased his farm next to the ferry crossing, SW $\frac{1}{2}$ -36-75-22-W5. We operated a family market garden for several years until the family grew up and everyone went their way.

I still reside there year round. I operated a gravel business until three years ago.

I now have a small sawmill that I operate as a hobby; my other pastime is building log cabins. Philip Lapensée; n.13-06-1922 m.08-12-1952
Helen Côté; n.09-07-1935

CHILDREN:

1. Shirley; n.21-03-1953 m.1970
Denis Labrecque. They have two children; Leigh and Cynthia
2. Denise; n.03-08-1954 m.26-07-1980
Dwayne Pipella. They have three children; Todd, Harris and Joel.
3. Yvette; n.22-01-1957 m.03-1977
Art Cloutier. They have three boys; Real, Justin and Derek.
4. Wayne; n.14-02-1958
5. Martin; n.21-08-1959
6. Wendy; n.29-10-1966

* * *

Je suis né à Killam, Alberta le 13 juin 1922. Quand j'avais cinq ans nous avons déménagé à Loughheed, Alberta où j'ai commencé à aller à l'école.

En 1928 nous arrivions à Falher où nous avons vécu la crise économique des années trente. J'ai laissé l'école en onzième année en 1940 et l'année suivante je m'enrôlais dans la R.C.A.F. J'ai été en formation militaire au Canada et en 1944 je fus transféré à Torbay, Terre-Neuve, avec le "Air Sea Squadron". Terre-Neuve n'était pas encore une province; c'était une colonie anglaise; alors le service là était considéré comme outre-mer.

Revenu au Canada en septembre, je fus transféré à R.C.A.F. Reserve. Alors je suis revenu à Falher où j'ai ouvert une bijouterie que j'ai gardée jusqu'en 1970. En 1949 j'ai fait application pour un "homestead" dans la région de Whitemud, le N $\frac{1}{2}$ -13-75-23-W5. En 1952, j'ai épousé Helen, fille de Léo Côté. Nous avons déménagé sur le "homestead" pour défricher et cultiver. J'ai ouvert soixante-dix acres la première année. En hiver nous retournions à Falher pour la bijouterie. Dans les années qui suivirent, nous avons continué à cultiver notre terre, mais nous avons perdu notre ferme, même si j'avais ouvert le nombre d'acres requis. Beaucoup d'autres vétérans ont subi le même sort, nous laissant tous avec d'amers souvenirs de ces exigences provinciales.

Après la mort de Jos. Vincelette en 1964, nous avons acheté sa ferme près du "ferry crossing", le SW-36-75-22-W5. Nous y avons fait un jardin maraîcher pour plusieurs années jusqu'à ce

que les enfants soient tous grandis et partis chacun de leur côté.

Je demeure encore à la même place. J'y ai fait un commerce de gravier jusqu'en 1983. Et maintenant, j'ai un petit moulin à scie que j'opère comme passe-temps, je bâtis aussi des cabanes en rondins.

LARIVIERE, ELEODORE & LESSARD, FLORE

par Flore Larivière

Eléodore Larivière est né le 27 avril 1904 à Scott Junction, Dorchester, Province de Québec. A l'âge de 30 ans, il décida de s'établir sur un lot de colonisation à Destor, Abitibi, P.Q. C'est là qu'il fit la rencontre de son épouse, Flore Lessard; née le 7 novembre 1914 à St-Léon, Co. Dorchester. Le mariage eut lieu le 29 novembre 1939 à Destor où ils demeurèrent un an, ensuite cinq ans à Ste-Germaine.



Les enfants Larivière: Maurice, Jacques, Lise, Guy, Jeanne d'Arc, Lucie.

En juillet 1944 Eléodore rencontra M. Wilfrid Bisson qui était venu chercher sa famille pour venir vivre à Guy. Eléodore décide de venir à Guy où il travaille aux récoltes. Il aime le pays, donc fait venir sa femme et ses deux fillettes. Celles-ci arrivèrent le 8 décembre 1944. La famille passa le premier hiver chez M. Ernest Gosselin, au printemps 1945 Eléodore acheta son terrain NW-7-76-20-5.

La famille demeura à Guy pendant 21 ans. En 1965 Louis Tokarz acheta leur propriété. La famille retourne à Rouyn-Noranda, Abitibi, P.Q. pour la rentrée des classes car trois des enfants étaient toujours d'âge scolaire. Jeanne d'Arc étant déjà mariée n'est pas retournée. Eléodore est décédé le 27 février, 1981. Flore est

revenue à Falher avec son fils, Guy, en août, 1982. Depuis, elle demeure à la Villa Beauséjour.

Eléodore Larivière: n. 27-04-1904

m. 29-11-1939 d.

Flore Lessard: n. 07-11-1914

Enfants:

1) Lucie: n. 17-01-9141

m. 22-06-1968

Normand Trudel

a) Louis

b) Marco

c) Lisa

d) Sylvie

2) Jeanne d'Arc: n. 30-05-1043

m. 24-06-1961

Antoine Boucher:

a) Diane: n. 26-03-1962

m. 06-02-1983

Danny Kimble: i) Michael

ii) Jamie

iii) Kristy

b) Robert: n. 01-02-1063

m. 05-11-1983

Diane Lorrain

c) Denise: n. 26-02-1064

m. 05-04-1986

Donnie Roschuk:

i) Josee

d) Marlene: n. 03-08-1971

3) Guy: n. 25-09-1945

4) Lise: n. 17-03-1947

m. 17-04-1971

Leo Roy:

a) Lynn

b) Carmen

c) Raymond

d) Jules

5) Jacques: n. 22-07-1949

m. 08-11-1983

Elizabeth Montain: (veuve avec six enfants)

6) Maurice: n. 01-11-1954

* * *

In July 1944 Eléodore met Mr. Wilfrid Bisson and decided to follow him to Guy to work at harvesting. He liked the country so asked his wife and two daughters to join him. They arrived on December 8, 1944 and spent the winter at Mr. Ernest Gosselin. In the spring Eléodore bought land.

The family stayed at Guy for 21 years then returned to Abitibi, P.Q. except for Jeanne d'Arc who was already married.

After Eléodore's death, Flore came back to

Falher with her son, Guy, in August 1982. She is now residing at the Villa Beauséjour.

LECLAIR, RAOUL & TESSIER, EVA

by R. Caron

Raoul Leclair, a veteran of W.W.I ventured to Western Canada in the mid-20's from around Hull, P.Q., and spent some time in Shell Lake, Saskatchewan. He married Miss Eva Tessier from Quebec in early 1928. They had two children.

He moved to the Falher area from Saskatchewan in April 1928. He took a homestead S.W. of Guy on the SE- $\frac{1}{4}$ -15-75-21-W5 and SW- $\frac{1}{4}$ -14-. They resided in Falher during the birth of their first child then moved to the farm. Raoul was well known for his mechanic and handyman skills.



Raoul Leclair, Jock Ford, Harold Restall, Fred Caron.

Shortly after Mrs. Leclair gave birth to the second daughter, she passed away in McLennan Hospital in November 1930. As Eva had been quite sickly, the nuns and friends were very helpful in taking care of the two baby girls and clothing them until the time Raoul decided to take them to Hull, P.Q. to live with relatives where they were raised and educated.

The Lambert family remembers Mr. Leclair

when he would pick up his mail at Forest View. He would occasionally stay over to play cards or croquet and visit as they had both previously come from the Debden, Saskatchewan area. In an old clipping of the French newspaper "La Survivance" saved by Mrs. G. Lemay, it states that in November 1935 Raoul had a gun accident -he had shot himself in the left hand.

Much of his time over the years was spent working out on different jobs or overhauling neighbors' equipment.

In the late 30's and 40's Raoul operated his own threshing machine and harvested his crops along with the crew's crops. He also did some custom work.

He eventually sold one quarter to Winnicky Farms and the other to Jos Johnson 1966-67 and moved to High Prairie where he bought a little house. About a year later while spending winter months with daughter Simonne and family, in Montreal, he passed away and he was buried there in early 1968.

Raoul Leclair; m.1928 d.1968

Eva Tessier; d.1930

CHILDREN:

1. Madeleine; n.26-12-1928 m.
Alexandre Larrivière, of Hawksbury, Ont.
2. Simonne; n. m.
Maurice Dubois, of Montreal, Quebec.

* * *

Raoul Leclair, un vétéran de la première guerre mondiale quitta les environs de Hull, P.Q. dans les années '20 pour venir dans l'Ouest, passant quelque temps à Shell Lake, Sask. Il épousa Mlle Eva Tessier du Québec en 1928 et ils eurent deux enfants.

Venant de la Saskatchewan, il arriva à Falher en avril 1928. Il prit un "homestead" au sud-ouest de Guy. Résidant à Falher durant la naissance du premier enfant ils déménagèrent à la ferme peu après. Raoul était bien connu comme mécanicien et homme à tout faire.

Peu de temps après que Mme Leclair donna naissance à la deuxième fille, elle mourut à l'hôpital de McLennan en novembre 1930. Les religieuses et amis ont vu à donner les soins appropriés aux deux bébés jusqu'à ce que Raoul décide de les amener vivre à Hull, P.Q. parmi la parenté où elles furent élevées et éduquées.

La famille Lambert se souvient que M. Leclair prenait son courrier à Forest View. Quelque fois il s'arrêtait pour jouer aux cartes ou au croquet ou jaser puisqu'ils venaient tous deux de Debden, Sask. Au fil des années, son

temps fut consacré à faire divers travaux et à réparer les machines des voisins.

Durant les années '30 et '40, Raoul opérait sa propre batteuse et battait sa récolte en même temps que celles de son équipe.

Eventuellement il vendit un quart à Winnicky Farms et l'autre à Jos. Johnson en 1966-67 et déménagea à High Prairie où il acheta une petite maison. A peu près un an plus tard, tandis qu'il passait l'hiver avec sa fille Simonne et famille à Montréal, il est décédé et fut inhumé là au début de 1968.

LEFEBVRE, SYLVAIN DAVID & REMILLARD, ROLLANDE

par Rollande

Sylvain David Lefebvre, né à Légal en 1919, est venu à Guy en 1950. A ce temps-là, son épouse, Rollande, et lui avaient trois enfants: Ernest, Adrienne et Bernadette. Il s'est établi dans la région de Guy, à l'école Benoit, comme professeur de la première à la neuvième année. En 1950, 22 étudiants fréquentaient cette école, et cette moyenne s'est maintenue et a augmenté à 28 élèves en 1954-55.

Pendant ses années dans la région de Guy, Sylvain était très actif dans le mouvement de l'Action rurale. Il organisait les parties de balle du pique-nique annuel de la paroisse; il organisait des soirées sociales à l'école Benoit — les danses et des parties de cartes. Beaucoup de vous ont de bons souvenirs de ces soirées qui se sont passées il y a déjà trente-cinq ans.

Rollande appuyait son mari dans plusieurs activités et elle, de sa part, était membre très active des Dames de Ste-Anne et des Dames Fermières.



R.1 Juliette, Julie, Rollande, Hélène, Denise, Constance.
R.2 Sylvain, Bernadette, Sylvain D., Adrienne, Ernest.

Lors d'une soirées d'Action Rurale le Père Campagna dormait pendant une des sessions. A la fin de la soirée, Sylvain, qui animait la soirée, lui posa une question: "Et vous, Père Campagna, que pensez-vous de ça?" Il répondit: "Je suis à vous remettre ce que vous me faites le dimanche."

En 1955, Sylvain et Rollande, maintenant avec six enfants (Sylvain C., Constance et Denise étaient venus s'ajouter à la famille) partaient vers St-Paul, Alberta où Sylvain prenait le poste de directeur d'école catholique publique. Trois ans plus tard, il est devenu le surintendant de la commission scolaire, un poste qu'il a détenu jusqu'en 1970. A St-Paul, des jumelles, Julie et Juliette, ainsi qu'Hélène sont nées. Ses neuf enfants parlent souvent des temps heureux qu'ils ont pu passer avec leur père avant son décès en 1972. Rollande maintient, à Edmonton, un foyer qui est souvent visité par ses enfants, ses amis de St-Paul, de Guy, de Girouxville et de Falber.

* * *

In 1950 Sylvain arrived in Guy as a school teacher for the Benoit School, who at that time included grades one to nine. He was a very active man in all social organisations and was well supported by his wife Rollande.

In 1955 he left Guy with his six children to go and teach in St. Paul, Alberta. There he became Superintendent of the Catholic School till 1970.

Unfortunately in 1972, he was taken away from his family of nine children, his wonderful wife, to go to his eternal rest, at the young age of 53 years.

Rollande is living in Edmonton, among her children and many friends.

LEMAY, AIME & LAMBERT, GILBERTE

par Gilberte Lemay

Aimé est né le 14 février 1917, à Vegreville, Alberta, fils d'Eugène Lemay et d'Anna Poulin il s'est marié à Guy, ALberta le 24 novembre 1947 à Gilberte Lambert, née le 2 mai 1917 à Debden, Saskatchewan, fille d'Aurèle Lambert et d'Elmire Brulotte. C'était la cinquième union entre Lemay et Lambert.

Avant notre mariage Aimé était cultivateur et demeurait avec sa mère et la famille. Son père était décédé en novembre 1941.

Moi, Gilberte, je demeurais avec mes parents et j'aidais mon père au bureau de poste de Forest View, Alberta, et ma mère aux soins du ménage.



R.1 Pierre, Aurèle. R.2 Gilberte, Suzanne, Aimé.

Les premières années de notre mariage, nous sommes demeurés sur la ferme de Mme Lemay qui avait déménagé au village de Guy avec les plus jeunes enfants pour l'école.

Nous faisons la culture mixte. Nous avons des vaches, des cochons et des poules; et la culture de grain se faisait avec des chevaux. A l'automne 1948 Aimé acheta son premier tracteur. J'aimais beaucoup jardiner, ce qui me tenait occupée tout l'été. Ainsi nous avons sur notre ferme la viande, le lait, les oeufs, les patates et les légumes dont nous avons besoin pour toute l'année. Aimé travailla aussi à salaire ici et là, pour aider à défricher plus grand terrain sur sa ferme.

En 1948 est né notre premier enfant, Aurèle. L'hiver nous allions au chantier de Raoul Lambert.

En 1949, nous avons eu le malheur de perdre deux bébés jumeaux. Louis et Louise, nés et décédés le même jour.

Durant l'été 1949, nous avons bâti une maison sur notre ferme, le SE sec. 24-T76-R21, et nous y sommes déménagés à l'automne.

En 1951 un autre garçon nous est né, Pierre. Et en 1952 une fille, Suzanne vint prendre place dans notre famille.

En 1954 Aimé loua les terres de René Lambert qui partait pour un séjour en Colombie Britannique. On déménagea sur ces terres là. C'est là qu'Aurèle commença l'école, à Whiteland.

En 1958, René vendit ses terres. Alors à l'automne nous avons déménagé notre maison

de la ferme au village de Guy, car c'était plus près pour l'école. Nos enfants fréquentèrent l'école Langlois à Guy. Plus tard Aurèle finit ses études au collège de Falher. Pierre et Suzanne finirent l'école à Donnelly.

Pendant deux ans nous avons gardé la petite Muriel Gagnon, pendant que sa mère enseignait à l'école de Guy. C'était une compagne pour moi durant la journée car elle me suivait partout, elle était bien gentille. Après l'école elle aimait jouer avec Suzanne, et le soir avec des papiers et crayons elle aimait aussi faire ses devoirs.

De 1957 à 1960 Aimé travailla beaucoup pour son beau-frère Raoul Lambert. En juillet 1960 il eut un accident en faisant du foin avec Roma Boivin qui travaillait aussi pour Raoul. En mettant du gaz dans le réservoir du tracteur qui était chaud, il y eut une explosion. Le feu prit à ses vêtements et il fut brûlé du côté droit, son bras, sa main, sa jambe jusqu'à sa chaussure. Il passa 65 jours à l'hôpital de McLennan et il fut tout l'hiver sous traitement. En février 1961 sa main, quoique encore enveloppée, était assez bien pour qu'il puisse conduire un autobus scolaire jusqu'au mois de mai 1962.

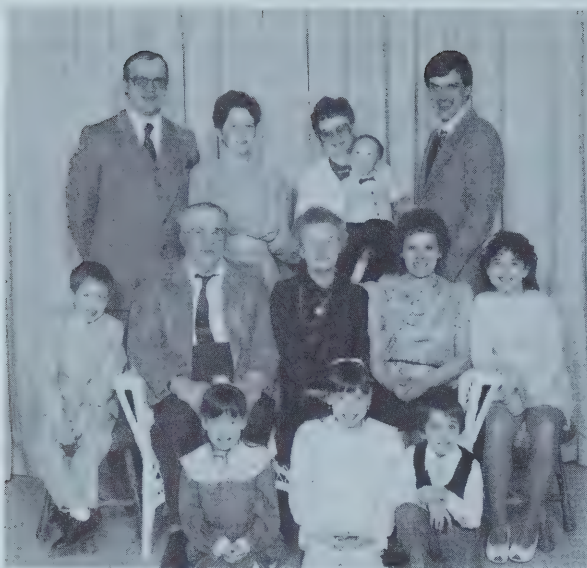
A l'automne il vendit sa terre. C'est alors qu'il commença à travailler pour M. Gérard Paradis, apiculteur. Il y travailla jusqu'en 1967.

Mes parents demeuraient tout près de nous au village, alors je pouvais leur aider au besoin. Comme ils avançaient en âge, il est venu un temps qu'il n'était plus fiable de les laisser seul durant la nuit, alors Aurèle et Pierre prenaient chacun leur tour pour aller coucher chez leurs grands-parents. En octobre 1967 ils ont laissé leur maison et sont venus rester avec nous. Cette année-là ce fut le dernier jour de Noël qu'ils passèrent ensemble entourés de toute leur famille, ainsi que des parents et amis. Nous avions 65 convives réunis pour le souper de Noël.

Mon père mourut en janvier 1968 et ma mère demeura encore cinq ans avec nous; elle est morte en avril 1973. Ils reposent dans le cimetière de Guy.

L'année scolaire 1967-68 j'ai travaillé comme cuisinière au couvent de Guy, ensuite j'ai travaillé au restaurant à Donnelly Corner, et en novembre 1969 j'entrais comme cuisinière à l'hôpital de McLennan, et j'y suis restée jusqu'à ma retraite en 1983.

Aimé travailla aussi à Donnelly Corner au garage. De 1970 à 1975 il travailla à l'hôpital de McLennan. C'est là qu'il s'est fait mal au dos, il fut longtemps sous des soins médicaux. Mais



R.1 Carmen et Lise Lemay, André Bruneau. R.2 Michel, Aimé et Gilberte Lemay, Suzanne et Doris Bruneau. R.3 Aurèle et Rolande, Pierrette avec bébé Denis et Pierre Lemay.

voyant que son état ne pouvait s'améliorer, il a dû prendre une retraite prématurée.

Cependant, nous avons toujours continué à participer aux activités de notre paroisse. Aimé fut membre et secrétaire du Conseil de la Co-op d'électricité pendant une vingtaine d'année. Il fit aussi partie du comité des Sports de Guy quelques temps, ainsi que marguillier d'abord et ensuite membre du Comité de Finances de la paroisse.

Quant à moi, je suis secrétaire de ce comité depuis quelques années. Autrefois je faisais partie de la Congrégation des Dames de Ste-Anne et du Cercle Lacordaire.

Chaque automne Aimé et moi avons coopéré à l'organisation du bazar annuel qui est demeuré jusqu'à présent quasi une tradition dans notre paroisse.

Autrefois, quand les temps étaient difficiles, les voyages étaient rares. Il ne fallait pas y penser. Mais au cours des années nous avons eu l'occasion de faire quelques voyages, avec mes parents d'abord, à Debden, Saskatchewan, où demeurait la soeur de ma mère avec sa famille, et à Maillardville, C.B. où demeurait nos frères et soeurs. En 1982 nous sommes allés à la grande réunion de famille des Brulotte, à Yakima Washington, E.U. Et en 1985 nous avons fait notre premier voyage dans l'Est du Canada et des Etats-Unis.

Maintenant nos enfants sont tous partis chacun de leur côté, comme c'est la vie; mais nous sommes toujours bien heureux de les rece-

voir avec chacun leur petite famille. On compte maintenant six petits enfants.

Aimé Lemay: n. 14-02-1917 m. 24-11-1947

Gilberte Lambert: n. 02-05-1917

ENFANTS:

*1- Aurèle: n. 26-08-1948 m. 11-08-1973
Rolande Garant: n. 18-08-1954, fille de Wilfrid Garant et Anita Beaudet de Donnelly, Alberta*

a) Michel: n. 10-12-1980

Aurèle a choisi le métier d'électricien et travaille pour Canfor à Grande Prairie depuis 1972.

2- Louis et Louise: n. 20-06-1949 d. 20-06-1949

Inhumés dans le cimetière de Guy, Alberta.

*3- Pierre: n. 26-06-1951 m. 16-07-1977
Pierrette Dickner: n. 10-03-1959 fille de Wilfrid Dickner et Cécile Fournier de McLennan, Alberta.*

a) Lise: n. 23-03-1979

b) Carmen: n. 12-06-1981

c) Denis: n. 20-01-1986

Pierre fut victime d'un accident en juin 1982 à l'Alfalfa Plant de Falher où il travaillait; il perdit sa main gauche. Après qu'il fut rétabli, il fut employé au bureau du Service Social à McLennan, où il travaille toujours.

*4- Suzanne: n. 13-05-1952 m. 14-07-1973
Richard Bruneau: n. 04-12-1952, fils de Gérard Bruneau et de Gabrielle Gariépy de Falher, Alberta*

a) Doris: n. 06-03-1975

b) Adnre: 27-04-1981

Suzanne demeure maintenant à Falher, Alberta avec ses deux enfants, et elle travaille à l'hôpital de McLennan depuis septembre 1982. Ce travail lui était bien connu car elle y avait déjà travaillé pendant neuf années auparavant.

** * **

Before our marriage Aimé was a farmer and stayed with his mother and his family. His father had died in November 1941.

I, Gilberte, stayed with my parents and helped my father at the post office of Forest View, Alberta and helped my mother with the housework.

During the first years of our marriage we stayed on his mother's farm because she moved to the village of Guy with the younger children because of the proximity to the school. We had mixed farming. We had cows, hogs, chicken and grain farming was done with horses. In the fall of 1948 Aimé bought his first tractor. I loved to garden and it kept me busy all summer. Our farm

provided us with meat, milk, eggs, potatoes and vegetables required for the whole year.

Aimé also worked out to open more land for his farm. During winter we went to Raoul Lambert's lumber mill.

In 1949 we lost twin babies, Louis and Louise.

During the summer 1949 we built a new house on our farm and moved in autumn.

In 1954 Aimé rented the land of René Lambert who was leaving for British Columbia. We moved on this farm and it is there that Aurèle started school at Whiteland.

In 1958, René sold his land. In autumn we moved our house to the village of Guy because it was closer to school. Our children attended Langlois school at Guy; later on Aurèle completed his studies at the Falher College. Pierre and Suzanne finished at Donnelly school.

For a period of two years we kept Muriel Gagnon while her mother taught school in Guy. She was company for me and played with Suzanne after school.

From 1957 to 1960 Aimé worked a lot for his brother-in-law Raoul Lambert. In July 1960 he had an accident while making hay with Roma Boivin who also worked for Raoul. While putting gas in the hot tractor, an explosion occurred. Fire spread to his clothes and he was burned; his right arm and hand and also his right leg down to his shoes. He spent 65 days in McLennan hospital and was under treatment all winter. In February 1961 his hand, still wrapped, was well enough for him to drive a school bus until May 1962.

In autumn he sold the farm and started to work for Mr. Gérard Paradis, a beekeeper. He worked there until 1967.

My parents were staying close to us in the village, so I could help them as needed. As they got on in age, Aurèle and Pierre took turns to go and spend the night at their grandparents'. In 1967 they left their home and came to live with us. It was their last Christmas together surrounded by their parents and friends. We had 65 guests reunited for Christmas supper.

During the school year 1967-1968 I worked as cook at the Guy convent, then at Donnelly Corner restaurant and in November 1969 I became cook at the McLennan hospital and stayed until my retirement in 1983.

Aimé also worked at Donnelly Corner garage. From 1970 to 1975 he worked at the McLennan hospital. There he hurt his back and was under medical attention for a long time. He was forced into early retirement.

However, we continued to take part in our parish activities. Aimé was a member and secretary of the electric co-op during twenty years.

He was also member of Guy Sports Committee for some time, church trustee and then member of the church finance committee. As for myself, I am a secretary of this committee since a few years. Formerly, I was a member of the Ladies of Ste-Anne and of Cercle Lacordaire.

Each fall, Aimé and I cooperated in the organization of the annual bazaar – a tradition in our parish.

Long ago when times were hard, trips were a rare thing. But with the years, we have had a few trips, with my parents to Debden, Saskatchewan where my mother's sister lives with her family and to Maillardville, B.C. where our brothers and sisters live. In 1982 we went to the big family reunion of Brulotte in Yakima, Washington, U.S.A. In 1985 we made our first trip east of Canada and the United States.

Now our children are all gone but we are always happy to have them visit with their families. We now have six grandchildren.

LEMAY, EUGENE & POULIN, ANNA

par Rose de Lima Lemay Lambert

Eugène, fils de Napoléon Lemay et de Rose de Lima Bernard est né à Wickham Ouest, cté Lot-binière, P.Q., le 28 novembre 1886.

Il apprit le métier de boulanger aux Etats-Unis. Ayant entendu parler de l'Ouest Canadien même qu'encore jeunesse il se dirigea du côté de St-Paul des Métis en Alberta avec ses parents. Son père, Napoléon, prit des terres à St-Vincent



R.1 Antoinette, Eugène, Anna, Lucille, Rolland, Joseph. R.2 Wilfrid, Adolphe, Marie, Cécile, Georgianna, Aimé. R.3 Paul, Rose de Lima, Thérèse, Rose Anna.

et s'établit là avec sa famille. Eugène travaillait dans une boulangerie à St-Paul.

Il alla souvent visiter ses parents et là il fit la connaissance d'Anna Poulin, qui demeurait à Vegreville. C'est là qu'elle naquit le 25 août 1895, du mariage de Joseph Poulin et Praxide Dubuc. C'est le 28 juillet 1914 qu'elle devint son épouse, en l'église St-Martin de Vegreville. Ils établirent leur foyer à St-Paul, où papa continua son métier de boulanger. Ils déménagèrent ensuite à Vegreville, et s'établirent sur une ferme jusqu'en 1928.

Vegreville devenait plutôt anglais et voulant élever leurs enfants dans un milieu français, Eugène déménagea à Donnelly. Il ouvrit une boulangerie, et comme les temps étaient déjà difficiles, il faisait de la livraison, transport et taxi, avec ses chevaux pour subvenir aux besoins de la famille, alors au nombre de sept enfants. C'était de longues journées, car il commençait avec l'arrivée du train à 4:45 A.M., en ramassant la malle et la transportant au bureau de poste. S'il y avait des gens qui avaient besoin de transport, il les conduisait à destination. Après il allait à la maison boulanger le pain et toute la journée était occupée jusque souvent tard le soir.

Ayant toujours bien aimé la ferme et les enfants grandissant et désirant vivre en campagne, il prit du terrain à quatre milles au nord de Guy. Au début maman passait les vacances sur le "homestead" avec les enfants, puis après on s'en allait sur la ferme le printemps et revenions au village pour l'hiver, car le "shack" de logs n'était pas assez chaud. Papa demeurait à Donnelly au village sur semaine avec les enfants d'âge scolaire, et continuait de gagner sa vie. Ce fut ainsi jusqu'en 1940 alors que la santé de papa devenait moins bonne. Alors il abandonna sa besogne à Donnelly et déménagea pour de bon à Guy.

Un bon dimanche, on s'en allait à la messe, et on avait des chevaux assez vigoureux lorsque tout à coup la "bennett" (voiture avec pneus) frappa une souche au milieu de la route, et le bas-cul cassa en deux. Papa qui tenait les guides serrés, passa par dessus le garde-boue et tomba à plat ventre dans le chemin. Il échappa les guides et les chevaux partirent à l'épouvante, et s'en allèrent à l'église, nous laissant assis dans la voiture. Rien d'autre à faire que de marcher pour se rendre à l'église, qui était à peu près à un mille de là. Heureusement papa ne s'était pas trop fait mal.

Un autre incident qui fut coûteux fut le feu de notre écurie. Comme des maringouins étaient très nombreux et malins, on faisait de la

fumée (smudge) pour les tranquiliser afin de travailler plus à l'aise. Pendant que maman et Rose de Lima étaient à mettre de la viande en conserve, deux des plus jeunes, partirent avec la chaudière à boucane pour aller chercher de la paille sèche dans le grenier de l'écurie. Il restait quelque tisons chauds dans le fond de la chaudière, et lorsqu'elles ont mis de la paille dedans, le feu a pris plus vite que prévu. Les petites épouvantées essayèrent de l'éteindre en mettant plus de pailles, et le feu grandissant s'étendit en dehors de la chaudière. La peur les amena à la porte au bout du fenil où elles crièrent au secours, plutôt que de prendre l'échelle et descendre. Heureusement, ayant besoin d'eau qui était dans un baril dehors, j'entendis les cris et vit en même temps les flammes en arrière d'elles, vite, j'ai crié à maman qui courut à l'écurie son couteau à la main. Elle le déposa sur le seuil de la porte de l'écurie afin de pouvoir monter secourir les petites qui n'osaient pas bouger. Pendant ce temps j'ai couru avec deux chaudières d'eau, mais ce ne fut pas assez pour amortir les flammes. Maman réussit à descendre les deux petites. Il y avait deux chevaux dans l'écurie qui appartenaient à M. Thibault qui défrichait du terrain pour nous. Maman, courageusement entra entre les deux chevaux, les détacha et essaya de les sortir. Rendus à la porte les chevaux refusèrent de franchir le seuil. J'étais en arrière d'eux dans l'écurie et avec un manche de fourche pour les frapper je réussis à les faire sortir. Il y avait un petit veau dans un petit parc dans l'écurie, et je réussis à le sortir le portant dans mes bras. Aussitôt sortis le plafond s'écroula et le feu était étendu partout. Nous avons sauvé nos vies, les animaux, mais nous avons perdu le couteau de boucherie qui était notre meilleur ainsi que toute l'écurie et quelques outils.

Avec les enfants d'âge à aider on réussit à ouvrir du terrain qu'on défrichait à la hache. On gardait des vaches, des cochons et de volailles pour la nourriture. Maman faisait de grands jardins et ramassait beaucoup de fruits sauvages, pour faire des conserves et on mangeait bien.

Papa a toujours aimé le sport et malgré sa santé délicate, il encourageait les joutes de balles et les veillées de famille. Un coin de terre avait été préparé pour le jeu de balle et c'était le rendez-vous des jeunes. Au temps du blé d'inde on avait des régals. Aussi comme on trayait plusieurs vaches on servait de la crème glacée à bien des fêtes. Nous avons un congélateur d'un gallon et demi et certains dimanches après-midi, il arriva qu'on le remplit trois fois.



4 générations: Anna Lemay, Rose Anna, Eugène et Michelle Lambert.

L'eau potable était rare, alors l'hiver on empaquettait de la glace dans le bran de scie pour tout l'été. On en empaquettait plus que moins car ça en prenait beaucoup pour faire la crème à la glace. Chacun faisait sa part. Les filles préparaient la crème et les garçons sortaient la glace et à tour de rôle on virait la manivelle. Ce n'était pas des moteurs à gaz où à l'électricité dans ce temps-là. Les après-midis jusqu'à la noirceur se passaient à jouer à la balle. Là on entraînait et avec Delphis Brulotte qui jouait du violon ou de l'accordéon, (ou le gramophone) on dansait. L'hiver on patinait sur l'étang où sur le petit ruisseau à un demi-mille de la maison. C'était toujours comme une grande famille; on se voisinait beaucoup.

Malheureusement le 19 novembre 1941 papa avait fini son pèlerinage ici-bas. Il laissa maman avec ses quatorze enfants, sur cette petite terre, encore pas mal boisée. Courageusement, maman a continué avec l'aide des plus vieux à élever la famille de treize à la maison; la plus jeune n'avait que deux ans et demi.

Le 8 juin 1943 le Seigneur vint chercher le petit Wilfrid, âgé de neuf ans. Il était malade depuis l'âge d'un an et demi alors qu'il avait eu une méningite et souffrait d'épilepsie. Tout cela était une dure tâche pour maman.

Lorsque l'école Benoit fut centralisée à Guy, les plus jeunes encore d'âge scolaire devaient

voyager au village à quatre milles et demi. Maman a décidé de déménager à Guy car c'était trop loin pour les jeunes, et c'était trop coûteux de les mettre au couvent.

En 1955 maman partit pour Maillardville, avec les trois plus jeunes garçons et sa fille Lucille. En 1971 elle vint passer une année chez sa fille, Rose de Lima et visiter ses autres enfants. En août 1972, elle retourna à Maillardville où elle mourut le 28 décembre 1972 après une longue maladie. Elle fut inhumée, suivant son désir, près de son mari et de son fils, Wilfrid, dans le cimetière de Guy.

Eugène Lemay: n. 28-11-1886 m. 28-07-1914 d. 19-11-1941

Anna Poulin: n. 25-08-1895 d. 28-12-1972

ENFANTS:

- 1- Rose Anna: n. 30-05-1915 m. 25-11-1936
Maurice Lambert: n. 11-04-1908
(voir Lambert, Maurice)
- 2- Aimé: n. 14-02-1917 m. 24-11-1947
Gilberte Lambert: n. 02-05-1917 (voir Lemay, Aimé)
- 3- Pierre: n. 07-11-1918 d. 20-11-1918
- 4- Rose de Lima: n. 05-02-1920 m. 27-01-1943
Raoul Lambert: n. 26-08-1912 (voir Lambert, Raoul)
- 5- Thérèse: n. 04-03-1922 m. 11-08-1943
Omer Lambert: n. 08-01-1910 (voir Lambert, Omer)
- 6- Paul: n. 02-06-1924 m. 26-11-1946 d. 04-10-1978
Chantal Lafleur: n. 05-02-1929 (voir Lemay, Paul)
- 7- Georgianna: n. 23-03-1926 m. 08-11-1950
René Bradley: n. 23-12-1925 (voir Bradley, René)
- 8- Cécile: n. 29-03-1927 m. 03-07-1946
René Lambert: n. 06-01-1920 (voir Lambert, René)
- 9- Marie: n. 20-05-1929 m. 26-11-1946
Eddy Gagné: n. 20-07-1946 (voir Gagné, Eddy)
- 10- Joseph: n. 23-10-1930 m. 09-11-1957
Sharron Dixon: n. 19-07-1940
Ils ont deux enfants, Joé et Henri. Ils demeurent à Maillardville.
- 11- Adolphe: n. 10-11-1931 m. 06-03-1970
Jean Greer: n. 26-09-1929
Ils demeurent à Maillardville.
- 12- Wilfrid: n. 06-06-1933 d. 08-05-1943
- 13- Rolland: n. 23-02-1935 m. 23-04-1960
Marie Plante: n. 11-10-1929
Ils ont trois enfants; Charles, Elaine et Eugène.

- 14- Antoinette: n. 30-10-1936 m. 13-04-1955
Roma Boivin: n. 10-05-1930 (voir Boivin, Roma)
- 15- Lucille: n. 11-07-1939 m. 01-06-1957
Léo Beaudette: n. 04-10-1933
Ils ont cinq enfants; Pauline, Marcel, Doreen, Raymond et Richard. Ils demeurent à St-Albert.

* * *

Eugene, born in Québec, arrived in Alberta as a young man. He worked as a baker in St. Paul for a few years. He then married Anna Poulin of Vegreville, and shortly after moved to a farm in Vegreville. In 1928, they sold everything and moved to Donnelly. There, they opened a bakery, which they operated until 1940. During the years they had taken a homestead, in Guy, and had worked on it, to get the title.

Dad was getting ill, and could not continue the work of baker. The children, all preferred the farm, so to the farm we moved. On November 19, 1941 God called Dad to his eternal rest. Mom who was left with 13 children at home, continued on the farm, for a few years, then retired in the hamlet of Guy. In 1955, she moved to B.C. with the five youngest members of the family.

She died in Maillardville, in 1972. Both are buried in the cemetery in Guy.

LEMAY, PAUL & LAFLEUR, CHANTAL

par Aimé Lemay

Paul Lemay né le 2 juin 1924, à Vegreville, Alberta, fils de Eugène Lemay et d'Anna Poulin. En 1928 alors que Paul n'avait que 4 ans, la famille vint s'établir à Donnelly, Alberta. Il fit ses études à l'école de Donnelly.

En 1940, la famille déménagea sur leur ferme à Guy, le NE 24-76-21. Paul était alors âgé de 16 ans. Il aidait son père sur la ferme. Notre père est décédé en novembre 1941.

Paul continua de cultiver la terre et d'aider sa mère à la besogne, pendant que moi, l'aîné je travaillais à salaire pour augmenter les revenus.

En 1945, il acheta la terre de M. Kasulyn, le SW 19-76-20.

Le 26 novembre 1946 il épousa Chantal Lafleur, née le 5 février 1929, fille de Moïse Lafleur et d'Emilia Legault de Guy.

Paul et Chantal ont demeuré sur leur ferme quelques années. Vers 1952 ils déménagèrent à McLennan, AB., où ils ont travaillé à salaire tous les deux.

En 1954, il vendit sa terre à son beau-frère



Paul et Chantal Lemay, nouveaux mariés.

Eddie Gagné et quelques temps après ils partaient pour aller demeurer à Maillardville, C.B.

Ils sont restés là environ une vingtaine d'années; ensuite il est déménagé à Kelowna, C.B. C'est là qu'il est décédé, le 4 octobre 1978, d'une crise cardiaque, à l'âge de 54 ans et 4 mois. Comme il avait toujours exprimé sa volonté d'être incinéré après sa mort, c'est là à Kelowna qu'il fut incinéré le 7 octobre 1978.

* * *

In 1928, when Paul was only four, the family left Vegreville and came to settle down in Donnelly, Alberta. He went to school in Donnelly.

In 1940, the family moved to their farm in Guy. Paul was then 16. He helped his father on the farm. Our father died in November 1941.

Paul continued to farm and to help his mother with the chores while I worked out to bring in more money. In 1945 he bought Mr. Kasulyn's farm.

After his marriage to Chantal Lafleur they stayed on their farm for a few years. Around 1952 they moved to McLennan where they both worked.

In 1954 he sold his farm to his brother-in-law, Eddy Gagné and later left to go and live in Maillardville, B.C. They stayed there for about

twenty years then they moved to Kelowna, B.C. There he died of a heart attack at the age of 54. As was his wish, he was cremated.

LESSARD, EPHREM & AUBIN, AUXILIATRICE

par Auxiliatrice Lessard

Je suis née à Falher le 6 mai 1916. Mon père Frank Aubin, est né à St-Damien, cté de Belle-chasse. Ma mère, Elise Legault, est née à Verner, Ontario.

Je suis l'aînée de sept enfants. Notre ferme était voisine de chez grand-père Aubin, à quatre milles et demi de Falher.

Lorsque grand-père est décédé en 1932 grand-mère décida de garder la ferme. Elle eut comme employé Ephrem Lessard. Il était en Alberta depuis 1929. Son père était Henri Lessard et sa mère Rosana Carter. Ephrem est né à St-Adrien d'Irlande, P.Q. Il vint en Alberta dans l'excursion organisée par l'Abbé Hamelin.



Ephrem & Auxiliatrice.

Ephrem était de petite taille mais l'ouvrage ne lui faisait pas peur. Il aimait beaucoup les chevaux et surtout ceux qui étaient très vigoureux. Il aimait faire des échanges de chevaux. Un jour il avait fait un échange sans le consentement de grand-mère. Il était revenu du village avec une paire de chevaux qui étaient à peine apprivoisés. Puis il réussit à convaincre grand-mère (Olivine Aubin) d'aller à la messe à Guy. Comme Ephrem et moi nous nous rencontrions

de temps à autre, il m'invita à les accompagner. Il avait attelé un de ces nouveaux chevaux sur la carriole. Il fallait se rendre pour onze heures. Le chemin était très beau et il y avait beaucoup de neige. C'était à la fin de mars par une belle journée ensoleillée.

Comme nous partions de quatre milles et demi au sud de Falher, c'était la forêt presque tout le long de la route. Je fus très étonnée quand j'aperçus cette jolie petite église avec un si beau clocher entourée de très grands sapins chargés de neige. Partout la neige brillait comme des milliers d'étoiles d'argent. On n'aurait pu imaginer un plus beau décor. Après cette excursion grand-mère ne pouvait qu'être contente du nouveau cheval.

J'épousai Ephrem Lessard le 20 avril 1936. Pendant les quatre premières années nous avons loué du terrain. Puis en 1940 nous avons acheté une ferme de trois cent vingt acres avec quarante acres en culture. Parce que nous étions à neuf milles au nord ouest de Guy, en dehors des limites du district scolaire, il nous fallait déménager au village afin de pouvoir envoyer les enfants à l'école. Un fois le couvent construit à Guy ils devinrent pensionnaires.

En 1951 toute la famille partit faire un voyage d'un an à Black Lake, P.Q. mais y sommes demeurés six ans. A notre retour nous avons acheté N^o 36-76-21-W5 et avons déménagé là. Voulant nous lancer dans l'élevage du bétail nous avons par la suite pris un "lease" pour le pâturage près de Dollar Lake. C'est là qu'Ephrem subit des brûlures mortelles à la



R.1 Jocelyne, Annette. R.2 Reynold, Raymond, maman Auxiliatrice, Henri.

suite d'une explosion de propane qui a complètement détruit notre maison. Ephrem est décédé un mois plus tard à l'Hôpital Royal Alex d'Edmonton.

Je suis maintenant installée dans une petite maison à Valleyview où je suis près de ma fille Annette et de mon garçon, Raymond.

Ephrem Lessard: n.02-03-1910 m.20-04-1936 d.16-07-1971

Auxiliatrice Aubin: n.06-05-1916

ENFANTS:

1. *Annette: n.01-04-1937 m.07-04-1953*

Adrien Gamache: n.19-01-1927

(Voir Gamache, Adrien)

2. *Henri: n.22-04-1938 m.17-08-1963*

Rollande Duguay (Voir Lessard, Henri)

3. *Raymond: n.28-12-1939 m.23-07-1966*

Juliette Nobert. Ils ont trois enfants.

4. *Reynold: n.18-11-1941*

5. *Jocelyne: n.12-09-1943 m.*

Mathias Frey. Ils ont deux enfants.

* * *

I am the eldest of seven living children of Frank Aubin and Elise Legault. Our farm was neighboring that of our grandfather Aubin, four and a half miles south of Falher.

After Grandfather's death in 1932, Grandmother decided to keep the farm, and she hired Ephrem Lessard to help. Ephrem came to Alberta in 1929 from the province of Québec on an excursion organized by Father Hamelin.

Ephrem was a man of small physical stature but hard work never scared him. He loved horses, especially the more vigorous ones and he truly enjoyed horse trading. One of his better trades was a team that was barely "broken". This team took Grandmother and me to church in Guy one Sunday. We were in the company of Ephrem who I was "seeing" from time to time. My first impression of Guy was a wonderful one. On that March Sunday, I was delighted upon seeing the pine trees. The snow twinkled in the sunshine like a million tiny stars. I could not have imagined a lovelier setting.

Ephrem and I were married in 1936. In 1940 we bought 320 acres, forty of which were under cultivation. Because we were located nine miles north east of Guy, and outside the school district, we eventually had to move into Guy in order to send our children to school.

In 1951 our family left for Black Lake, P.Q. for a visit, but we remained there for six years. Upon our return to Guy, we bought more land and moved onto it. Because we wanted to raise cattle, we leased pasture land near Dollar Lake. It

is there that Ephrem suffered fatal burns following a propane explosion which totally destroyed our home.

Ephrem passed away one month later at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton. I now live in a small house in Valleyview near two of my children, Annette and Raymond.

LESSARD, HENRI & DUGUAY, ROLLANDE

par Rollande Lessard

Henri, fils de Ephrem Lessard et Auxiliatrice Aubin, est né à Falher, Alberta le 22 avril 1938. Il est allé à l'école de Falher, de Guy et de Black Lake, Québec. Quand il revint en 1956, il travailla pour son oncle Benoit Aubin à faire les semences. Ensuite il travailla à la construction du chemin de Donnelly, à la rivière Smoky, à la scierie des frères Bisson, ainsi qu'au travail des semences et récoltes pour Georges Bastien.

Il prit son "homestead" E½-16-74-21-W5 en 1959. Il a fait défricher et casser 35 acres par Wilfred Dickner et encore 30 acres l'année suivante. Pendant ce temps, Henri travailla pour Guy Co-op Sawmill et en 1961 il commença à travailler sur les puits de pétrole.



Henri, Rollande, Norman, Rita et Lynne Lessard.

En 1963 il a épousé Rollande Duguay fille de Gérard Duguay et Léda Prévost.

Rollande est née à Guy et a vécu avec ses parents sur la ferme. Elle a fréquenté l'école de River Valley et l'école Langlois. Elle voyageait avec Françoise et Rolland Desbarnais qui se servaient de l'auto de leur père. L'année suivante l'autobus scolaire nous transportait tous.

Au printemps de 1964 nous avons déménagé sur le "homestead" afin de faire les semences. Pendant l'hiver nous avons déménagé à Jasper où Henri avait un emploi avec la compagnie New-West. C'est là que Norman est né. Henri a

travaillé pour la compagnie New-West pendant huit étés à paver les grands chemins.

En 1967, il prit le terrain S½-32-73-21-W5 où nous demeurons maintenant. Nous avons vendu le premier "homestead" à Arnold Reid avec cent acres en culture.

Après la mort de son père, Henri est revenu s'occuper de ses animaux et s'est installé où son père avait ses "grazing leases" près de Dollar Lake. Nous avons pris en soin Denis Bruno un enfant élevé par M. et Mme Lessard depuis l'âge de deux ans et demi. En 1973, nous avons acheté une nouvelle demeure.

Nous avions 109 bêtes à cornes à ce temps et le prix de vente a baissé soudainement. Alors Henri a recommencé à travailler dans le bois à couper des arbres. A l'automne 1978 nous avons déménagé sur notre terrain S½-32-73-21-W5. Nous avons vendu toutes nos bêtes à cornes dans les prochains deux ans. En 1983 nous avons acheté le terrain E½-2-75-22-W5. Maintenant Henri cultive l'été et travaille durant l'hiver à couper du bois.

Henri Lessard; n.22-04-1938 m.17-08-1963

Rollande Duguay; n.01-05-1943

ENFANTS:

1. Norman; n.09-02-1965

2. Rita; n.31-08-1968

3. Lynne; n.17-05-1973

* * *

Henri, son of Ephrem Lessard and Auxiliatrice Aubin, was born at Falher, AB., on April 22, 1938. He attended school at Falher, at Guy and at Black Lake, P.Q. In 1956, he came back from Quebec and for some years he worked at different jobs and places. He filed a homestead in 1959, the E½-16-74-21-W5.

In 1963, he married Rollande Duguay, daughter of Gérard Duguay and Lèda Prévost. She was born at Guy, lived on the farm with her parents, attended school at River Valley and at Langlois School.

In 1964 we were on the homestead to do the seeding. During the winter we moved to Jasper where Henri got a job with the New West Company, paving roads. Our son was born there. Henri worked for this company every summer for eight years.

After his father's death in 1971, Henri moved to his father's ranch near Dollar Lake to take care of the animals. At that time we also took in Denis Bruno, a child that Mr. and Mrs. Ephrem Lessard had taken care of since he was two and a half years old. In 1973 we bought a new house.

In 1978 we returned to our own land and in

the next two years we sold all our animals. In 1983 we bought the E½-2-75-22-W5. Now Henri farms during the summers and works at cutting trees during the winters.

LEVASSEUR, WILFRID

par Gilberte Lemay

M. Levasseur était un homme d'âge moyen, instruit, qui aimait beaucoup la lecture. C'était son seul passe-temps. Il recevait beaucoup de journaux qu'il lisait d'un bout à l'autre.

C'est en 1928 qu'il prit le "homestead" N. W. 23-75-21 et y fit toutes les améliorations nécessaires. Il ne sortait pas beaucoup, ses seules sorties étaient d'aller à la messe, faire ses achats au magasin et aller chercher son courrier au bureau de poste de Forest View.

M. Levasseur a trouvé un moyen économique de cultiver son terrain. Au lieu d'acheter un tracteur pour tirer ses machines agricoles, il utilisait son "jeep". Les gens des alentours étaient toujours surpris de voir comment il se tirait d'affaires.

Il demeura sur son terrain plusieurs années et puis il vendit sa terre à M. W. Bisson et alla demeurer à Falher. Plus tard, malade avançant en âge, et sur l'avis du médecin, il alla finir ses jours au Foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan, Alberta.

* * *

Mr. Levasseur was a middle-aged man, well-learned, who liked reading very much. It was his only pastime. He received a great deal of newspapers which he read throughout.

In 1928 he took a homestead and did all the necessary improvements. He didn't go out much. His outings were going to Mass, doing his shopping at the store and getting his mail at the Forest View post office.

Mr. Levasseur found an economical way of working his land. Instead of buying a tractor, he would pull his machinery with his jeep. People around were always amazed at the way he did things.

He stayed many years on his land then sold to Mr. W. Bisson and went to reside in Falher. Later on when sick and getting old, under doctor's advice he went to Our Lady of the Lake Nursing Home in McLennan, Alberta.

L'HEUREUX, NAPOLEON

par Gilberte Lemay

Venu de Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, M. L'Heureux était un orfèvre, veuf avec trois jeu-



Napoléon L'Heureux, sa fille Blandine.

nes enfants: Béatrice, Blandine et Marc. Il s'installa à Falher pour pratiquer son métier et son garçon, encore d'âge scolaire, fréquenta l'école de Falher.

Comme il aimait beaucoup la campagne, il prit un "homestead", le N.E. 23-76-21. L'été il venait passer ses fins de semaines sur sa terre avec ses enfants.

La plus vieille, Béatrice, épousa Louis Gauthier de Falher. Marc poursuivait ses études au Collège d'Edmonton, Blandine manifesta le désir de retourner au Manitoba.

C'est alors qu'il abandonna tout ici et retourna au Manitoba avec Blandine et Marc. Ce dernier voulut retourner pour terminer ses études là-bas.

* * *

Coming from Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan, Mr. L'Heureux was a jeweller, widower with three young children, Béatrice, Blandine and Marc. He came to Falher to practice his trade and his son, still of school age, attended school in Falher. As he liked the country very much he took a homestead. In summer he would go to his land on week-ends with his children.

The eldest, Béatrice married Louis Gauthier of Falher. Marc was attending a college in Edmonton. Blandine wished to return to Manitoba.

It is then that he left everything here and returned to Manitoba with Blandine and Marc. The latter wanted to complete his studies over there.

LINDAL, SOFFANIAS & SERVANT, BERTHA

by Bertha Teward

Bertha (Betty), the daughter of George Edward and Marie Rose Emma Servant was born in Donnelly, Alberta.

Soffanias (Lin) originated from Languith, Manitoba. His parents were Icelandic.

Betty and Lin met in Edmonton, where Lin, a corporal, in the army, was an instructor at the Technical School and Betty worked at the Calgary Brewery. They met at a coffee shop across from the Brewery in January 1944 and were married June 17, 1944 in the Immaculate Conception Church, Father Ketchen, officiating.

Lin's duties took him to Wainwright, Vancouver, and Brandon, Manitoba, travelling twenty times through the Rockies.

In 1946 he was discharged from the army and together they returned to Donnelly to fulfill their dream of getting rich quickly so as to be able to return to Manitoba to settle down where his family lived.

At first they stayed at their uncle Albert Vallée's place, a rented farm. Lin filed for the homestead lease (W $\frac{1}{2}$ -13-75-20-W5th) through Veteran's Affairs in 1947. They could hardly wait



Doug, Chris, Louise, Elisabeth, Julie, Betty & Soffanias Lindal.

for spring so as to be able to open up the little domain that was their very own. A granary to live in was moved from Betty's parents' farm in the fall of 1947 and that same fall they hired a Cat to brush cut and get sixty-five acres ready to work down the following spring. Early the next spring the young couple with their two children moved in. There was plenty of hard work involved, picking, piling and burning roots, then breaking the soil; but eventually they saw sixty-five acres of registered oats flourish, only to see it all freeze in August. But this didn't dampen their enthusiasm. They were young, strong and determined to carry on. When Lin broke the land at the other end of the farm yard for a garden, Betty picked and stacked seventeen piles of roots as high as they would go.

Betty's father shared his machinery with them until Lin got some of his own with the grant from Veteran's Affairs.

Even though there were no roads their, 1927 Essex was marvelous on the many trails and in the mud holes. Whenever the old faithful was indisposed for one reason or another the team of horses always took the lovely little family to church.

The first winters were spent partly off the homestead as not only was their home too cold, and travelling in the snow too difficult, but money was also greatly needed to supplement the farm income.

The first winter was spent in Donnelly. When the family was still young they went back occasionally to Manitoba to work, visit the family and spend enjoyable Christmases. While there Lin did some fishing, trucking, and driving. One winter Lin and Betty both worked in Winnipeg.

In January 1948, Lin and his brother-in-law, Peter Michael started what was to be their dream home consisting of two bedrooms and a kitchen. Although they were not to have power, and water had to be hauled in a barrel they were contented and immensely proud of their new home. Their drinking water was from an ice house during the winter. With a cow, a sow, one hundred chickens, ten turkeys and a lovely big garden that were their very own, they were true homesteaders. Betty filled all the available preserving jars with garden produce and many pails of wild strawberries, raspberries and Saskatoon berries.

Betty sold cabbages and carrots to the hospital to pay the bills (\$35.00 for the delivery of a baby.) She also generously helped at church bazaars. They also took part in the baseball team.

Of course, there were anxious moments. It wasn't uncommon to see four or five bears, the

occasional timber wolf and numerous coyotes roaming around. One year the coyotes feasted on their turkeys and the pesky weasels bled quite a few of their flock of chickens. Their precious cow almost died from pneumonia.

The spring run-off was never welcomed as it meant crossing the merchandise over many mudholes always found between Triangle and Benoit's farm. Gas barrels lying on their side had to be placed on rafts and pushed across the mudholes where steel-rimmed tractors stood waiting to continue the journey.

But there were also many blessings. Their new settlement was surrounded by wonderful neighbors. Occasionally everyone young and old got together for a good old party. The coal oil lamps were trimmed, gas lanterns pumped full of air and violins and guitars tuned. Fortunately there were numerous musical talents amongst them. Lin played the violin, accordion and guitar, Roy the comb and guitar, Julie Hupp the guitar, and Pete Michael the comb. Together they chatted, laughed and danced sharing the food and drinks.

But as the little family grew, soon came thoughts of school. This meant relocations. One winter while the children were settled in school Betty and Lin left for Uranium City where they worked for ten months, seven days a week, twelve hours a day, enabling them to pay all the bills, buy a car and put in a foundation as well as an extension to their house.

With much emotion Betty related how much she appreciated their first dugout. The fellow who did the work was certainly a kind and compassionate fellow. He was paid most of the asked price but instead of collecting the last hundred dollars owed, issued a receipt for the entire amount. He was graciously served tea and cookies for his generosity.

But Betty and Lin never felt sorry for themselves. They enjoyed their dear little ones so very much. When Lin was away Betty would embrace as many on her lap as she could and would sing to them. Lin enjoyed playing the violin for his family in the evening.

In 1960 the family moved to Edmonton where they purchased a home. For the first few years they farmed from the city, then in 1964 they sold their farm to Jos and Anatole Turcotte and later moved to British Columbia. Their family has now dispersed.

Soffanias (Lin) passed away in October 1985.

Bertha (Betty) is re-married to Clarence Teward and they reside in Kelowna, B.C.

Soffanias Lindal; m.06-17-1944 d.10-1985.

Bertha Servant;

CHILDREN:

1. Julianna (Julie); b.09-06-1945 m.
Frank Worthington; They have two children;
Frank and Karen. They live in Calgary.
2. Josephine; b.07-05-1946 d.1954.
3. Elizabeth; b.28-10-1947 m.
John Watson. (d.1950) They had two children;
Cameron and Krista. She and her family live in Edmonton.
4. Louise; b.15-08-1949 m.
Wayne Huddleston. They have a daughter,
Andrea.
5. Christopher; b.19-06-1952 m.27-12-1986.
Yolanda Long; They reside on his farm in
Algrove, B.C.
6. Douglas; b.27-11-1953 m.
Theresa; They have two sons; Lee and Jay.
They reside in Edmonton.

* * *

Lin est natif de Langruth, Manitoba et est le fils de parents Islandais. Lin servit dans l'armée comme caporal, et instructeur à l'école technique de l'armée. C'est là qu'il rencontra Bertha Servant, qui devint sa femme le 17 juin 1944.

En 1946, Lin fut démobilisé de l'armée, et le couple s'en vint à Donnelly. En 1947 il prit W¹/₂-13-75-20-W5, où le jeune couple déménagea au printemps 1948, anxieux de défricher, pour y faire fortune. L'hiver il fallait aller gagner ailleurs, pour subvenir aux besoins.

En 1960, la famille partit pour Edmonton, où ils se sont achetés une maison. Pendant quelques années, ils voyageaient de la ville pour venir cultiver, puis ils vendirent leurs terres aux frères Turcotte.

Lin mourut en octobre 1985. Bertha est remariée à Clarence Teward et demeure à Kelowna, B.C.

LOISELLE, NAPOLEON & DERY, ANNA

by Alice (Loiselle) Brisson

I remember leaving Saskatchewan; I was fourteen years old. My Dad had built a caravan out of an old dodge car he had bought in 1917; we left Dollard, Saskatchewan in 1929, April 25th, to go to Alberta. At that time Guy had not been named. It was only bush.

My Dad, Romeo and a cousin François Baryl had gone the year before and built a little shack of green poplar logs. Romeéo and François spent the winter there, and Dad came back at New Year's. On New Year's day at supper time, he got a telegram that his Dad had just died.

In the spring we started to pack and load two box cars on the tracks, and shipped everything we had machinery and furniture. Then all the rest of the family went in that caravan. We were just kids, so we thought it great fun. But it was a lot of work for my mother, stopping at campgrounds. We finally got to Edmonton, then Julie who was only two and a half years old, had earaches so bad that mother and I took the train in Edmonton with the two smallest ones, Juliette and Rita. The rest went on by caravan. They had a hard time, with the mud and bad roads, but they finally got to Falher, then on to the place they had built, the little shack south of Falher. Mom and I and the little ones were already there, we stayed at Benoit and Rose Major's place for a couple of days.

We had homesteads; at first my Dad and my oldest brother Roméo filed, and as we came of age to file, we all did. My mother, René and myself (Alice) filed near the Little Smoky River. But first he set up a big tent made of canvas, no floor, our beds sat right on the ground, mice and spiders crawled in, but they were not very welcome.

We spent the summer in the tent, us kids, and Mom and Dad slept in the shack, that had no floor. Our housework tools were a shovel and a rake, because we had sawdust on the floor, so every once in a while, we would change it. All this was going on while my Dad was busy building a sawmill from an eight furrow plow he had brought from Saskatchewan. Then they made logs and neighbors such as Benoit Major, Alcide Turcotte and some others helped Roméo to saw.

In the fall Dad built the garage and we gladly moved in it for the winter, although it wasn't finished, it was warmer than a floorless tent. Once his sawmill was just right everything worked fine, he sawed lumber for others. Some could pay for the gas, and lot couldn't so we didn't get rich very fast.

We made a garden and if it rained we had lots of vegetables and potatoes for the winter. Moose was our meat and the odd deer. It was the hungry thirties, so it was tough. Everything was made over for the children, and there was a lot of children in our family so we wore flour sack dresses and shirts. Everybody was the same so it wasn't so bad.

My Dad was quite discouraged for a while. He plowed about ten acres and the land was white, and wouldn't grow very much, especially if it didn't rain. When it rained it would get hard as cement; anyhow he decided to stay. We had no water, only slough water that animals and moose had walked through. We had to boil it and skim



Mr. Loiselle's sawmill (1929).

the scum with a saucer, add some ginger or lemon in it to drink. Everybody had boils. It was a terrible thing.

Later the neighbors and Dad went five miles away in the jackpines and dug a hole in the moss of the forest, it filled up with water. It was dark brown but clean. My Dad had a twelve gallon barrel tank and they put four horses on it to pull it home. That water was very precious because they had to fill the tank with pails. The year after, Dad built an icehouse with walls filled with sawdust and they went to the river 5 ½ miles and cut ice. Then we had good water to drink and cook with. We washed by hand in a tub. We couldn't afford a washing machine for a long time. Alcide Turcotte was one of our neighbors. His wife died four years after they were married. Four years later I married him. He was a wonderful man, good husband, and a good father.

In 1937, after selling our land to Mr. Donat Gagnon, my folks moved to Dawson Creek, and Alcide and I moved to Prince Rupert, in 1942, to work building freighters for the war. They were big ships. We were there ten years and Alcide died. I stayed on another eight years then moved to Babine Lake. There I met Henry Brisson and married him. P.S. Home life was very different. Our parents were very strict and nobody started dating and going out without the parent's consent. We only had horses so we couldn't go very far. One thing I noticed, in Guy people were all friendly. We came to this area because my Dad

could see that things were going wrong in Saskatchewan, so he decided to move to another place where you could make a living for a big family. But the Depression came at that time, so everybody was in the same situation.

A church was built and that is when the community got the name of Guy. It was named after bishop "Guy". My oldest brother Roméo worked a lot building it. I was married to Alcide there in that cute little church. It sure brought back sweet memories when I saw it again for the first time, five years ago. We were married December 26th, 1934. They called the post office Forest View. It was in Mr. Aurèle Lambert's house; he went every Friday to get the mail from Falher, and everybody gathered there for their mail. It



Threshing time. Alice standing beside tractor.

was an outing for us as there wasn't anything else to do. Then more children were born.

Rolande; n.26-10-1935

Art; n.10-03-1937

Jeannine; n.13-04-1940

Paulette; n.05-12-1941

Yvette was Alcide and Jeanne Lupien's daughter, she was only two and a half years when her mother died. When we got married, I raised her. She was a very sweet little girl, by that time she was six years old. I never think of her as an outsider, she is my daughter the same as the others. She's been very good to all of us and we love her very much. She was born in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, August 11th, 1927.

We lived in the garage; Dad had the back for his shop, and the front was our living quarters, a kitchen and two bedrooms divided by curtains. One day Mom was doing her washing and someone had put some men's sock that Mom had been mending in the wash. The darning needle was still in the sock; it was mixed up in the dirty clothes. Mom was washing when that big needle with wool went through her hand. She ran to the shop to see Dad, so he could help her. As she got there she fainted, so Dad revived her with water he used to cool irons. His hands were full of blackgrease; he kept putting that cold water in her face. She came to and Dad carried her to the house, her face black as a negro. It was funny to see, even she laughed. Nevertheless Dad had pulled the needle and wool out of her hand. It was quite sore but she was fine. We had such wonderful parents. I miss them very much now that they are both gone.

Mom died in 1962 and Dad died in 1972. Alcide died in 1952. Mom and Dad in Dawson Creek, Annette died in Pouce Coupé. Paul died in Dawson Creek too. Roméo, René, Gérard and Roger are all living in Dawson Creek.

CHILDREN:

1. Roméo; n.19-02-1910 in Manitoba
2. Alice; n.14-06-1914 farm in Saskatchewan
3. René; n.16-01-1916 farm in Saskatchewan
4. Blanche; n.22-12-1918 farm in Saskatchewan
5. Paul; n.20-06-1919 farm in Saskatchewan
6. Annette; n.25-04-1920 farm in Saskatchewan
7. Gérard; n.11-06-1922 farm in Saskatchewan
8. Arthur; n.25-04-???? deceased
9. Juliette; n.15-07-1926 in Dollard, Saskatchewan
10. Rita; n.12-11-1927 in Saskatchewan
11. Roger; n.25-11-1929 in Alberta

The suspension bridge over the Peace River, at Taylor, B.C., had been built in 1943-44 for the

Alaska Highway. On October 16, 1957, that bridge fell in the river; Loiselle Transport trucks, were re-routed 120 miles east to Donnelly and then north to cross at Peace River.

* * *

Napoléon arriva à Guy, dès le début de la colonisation en 1929. Il vint de la Saskatchewan, avec une famille de dix enfants. Le trajet fut très fatigant, et difficile puisque ce fut en caravane, par des chemins boueux.

Déjà, des terres avaient été prises et quand les enfants avaient huit ans, ils faisaient application pour des "homesteads", au sud de Guy.

Napoléon, voyant le besoin de planches et de madrier de bois scié, décida de bâtir un moulin à scie, dès la première année après son arrivée. Plusieurs de ses voisins en ont profité.

Ça demandait beaucoup de courage de la part de la mère. Il fallait coudre pour habiller les enfants, faire des jardins. Heureusement que l'original et le chevreuil fournissaient la viande pour la famille.

Napoléon partit de Guy, avec sa famille en 1937 pour s'établir à Dawson Creek. Il a vendu ses terres à M. Donat Gagnon.

Il mourut en 1972 et sa femme, Anna, en 1962.

LONFAT FAMILY HISTORY

by the family

Joseph and Hélène Lonfat In 1928, the village of Charrat in the canton of the Valais in Switzerland lost two of its citizens. Mr. Joseph Lonfat and his wife Mrs. Hélène Jacquat Lonfat (née Magnin) came to Canada on the Canadian Pacific ship Marloch. Mrs. Lonfat left two children behind in Switzerland, a son Pierre, who later visited, and a daughter Suzanne.

Joseph and Hélène originally went to Golden, B.C. and upon realizing their error moved to the Guy area. They originally settled on the SE-30-76-21-W5. While they lived there they became parents to a bouncing baby boy they called Martin Paul Henry. After about a year they moved to NE-7-76-21-W5 where they became homesteaders.

Over the ensuing years they chose two more children to add to their family, in 1936 they adopted a daughter Marguerite and in 1940 a son Denis. They continued to farm and keep bees until 1960 when grand-maman had her house moved into the yard of her son Martin and grand-papa moved to a small farm near Kathleen.

Grand-papa enjoyed living in the Kathleen



R.1 Helene Lonfat, second from left. R.2 Joseph Lonfat, standing behind to her left.

area and he would often visit family and friends on his Fordson tractor. He made numerous trips to Switzerland where he still had a great deal of family. Mr. Joseph Lonfat passed away in December 1972 at the age of 78.

In October of 1961 grand-maman decided it was time to retire and she moved into the Pleasant View Lodge in High Prairie. She kept herself busy with needlecrafts and walking and shopping trips to the Boyt's store. She later moved to the Villa Beausejour in Falher. She spent the last three years of her life in the Notre Dame du Lac nursing home in McLennan. Mrs. Helene Lonfat passed away in November 1985 at the age of 96.

Martin Lonfat and Family

Martin Lonfat was born in September of 1928. He went to North and South Ballater schools and he later attended school in Falher where he stayed during the week, coming home on weekends. After he left school he worked on the farm.

In 1955 he married Edith Lyle Brian who was the teacher at North Ballater school. Edith came

to the Guy area from Kinuso where her family had settled after moving to Canada from the Vienna area of Illinois. In 1956 they became parents to a daughter they called Mary Catherine. Edith taught school and Martin worked in the lumber camps to help set up the farm. They lived in the same yard that Martin's parents had homesteaded. In the fall of 1960 the Martin Lonfat family moved to the NW-21-76-21-W5. They had a much bigger house which was fortunate because in 1961 they became parents again to another daughter they called Linda Lea.

Martin's farm grew until he had seven quarters and another six which he rented. In 1967 he sold the farm to the Allarco Development Corporation and he and his family moved to Penticton, B.C. where they eventually bought an orchard.

The saying is that farming is in your blood which must be the case because in 1971 Martin sold the orchard and moved back to the Guy area where he bought another farm. They moved to and still live on the SE-30-76-21-W5, a mere



R.1 Martin Lonfat. R.2 Joseph, Marguerite et Hélène Lonfat.



R.1 Helen Lonfat. R.2 Marguerite, Joseph, Denis Lonfat. 1947.

half mile from where Martin's parents had originally settled and where he was born.

The Martin Lonfat children have moved to Edmonton. Mary married Robert Sutherland in 1976 and she is a French immersion teacher for the County of Strathcona. Linda trained as a hairdresser and she has worked at the Bay Southgate for the last six years.

Marguerite Lonfat and Family

Marguerite Dolorès Deschênes was born in Vegreville, Alberta on June 18, 1936, and was adopted by Joseph and Hélène Lonfat, in December 1936, at the age of six months.

She attended school in Falher for two years from 1942 to 1944, then she attended St. Augustin's Mission near Peace River for the next seven years. She came home only for the summer months and two or three times at Christmas because the family had no car and it was too far for the horses. In 1950 she went to school at Lacombe Home near Calgary and in 1951 in McLennan. She then stayed home and worked for a neighbor for nearly a year.

In 1953 she went to High Prairie, to work in the hospital, her first experience in the big world and stayed there for two years. She moved to Valleyview in 1955 and there she met and married Russel (Slim) Falk, in 1956. They made their home in Valleyview for two years. Debbie, their first daughter, was born in April, 1957, then Katherine in April of 1958.

In September of 1958 they moved to Fort St. John, B.C., where their third daughter Shelley was born in February of 1959, then another daughter Valerie in April 1962, followed by a son Gregory in May of 1964. Slim and Marguerite still live in Fort St. John, where they operate a family trucking business. The latest additions to their family are four grandchildren: Clinton, Caine, Ashley and Jared.

Denis Lonfat and Family

Denis Cloutier was born in Edmonton on January 25, 1940. He was later adopted by Joseph & Hélène Lonfat. He took correspondence courses at home and later attended local schools. He worked for Martin on the farm from the time he left school until Martin sold the farm in 1967.

In 1968, he married Maxine Still and they made their home in northern B.C. They became parents to a son they called Edward. Denis took training as a heavy equipment operator and he worked at various jobs in southern and northern B.C.

In 1983, Denis, Maxine and Edward moved to Lloydminster where they are still living. Denis works in the construction industry, Maxine works in a nursing home and Edward is in a mechanics apprenticeship program.

* * *

Joseph et Hélène Lonfat

Originaire de la Suisse Joseph et Hélène Lonfat vinrent au Canada par bateau. Après un

court stage à Golden, C.B., ils prirent une ferme à Guy. Après la naissance d'un garçon ils choisirent d'adopter une fille et un garçon. En plus de la ferme ils gardaient des abeilles.

En 1960, grand-maman fit déménager sa maison dans la cour de son fils, Martin, et grand-papa déménagea sur une petite ferme à Kathleen. Il fit plusieurs voyages en Suisse.

En 1961 grand-maman décida de se retirer et elle déménagea à Pleasant View Lodge à High Prairie, ensuite à la Villa Beauséjour et finalement à Notre-Dame du Lac à McLennan.

Martin Lonfat et famille

Martin fréquenta les deux écoles Ballater et celle de Falber. Les études terminées il aida à la ferme.

Edith enseignait à North Ballater quand ils se marièrent. Elle venait de Kinuso. Après la naissance d'une fille, Edith continua l'enseignement et Martin travaillait au chantier pour supporter la ferme. Celle-ci augmenta jusqu'à sept quarts et on en louait six autres.

En 1967, il vendit la ferme à Allarco et déménagea à Penticton, C.B., où il acheta un verger. Après avoir vendu à nouveau il revint sur une ferme à Guy.

Marguerite Lonfat et famille

Marguerite Dolorès Deschênes est née à Végreville. A l'âge de six mois elle fut adoptée par Joseph et Hélène Lonfat.

Elle fréquenta l'école de Falber, la Mission St-Augustin, Lacombe Home et McLennan. Après les études elle travailla chez un voisin.

En 1953, elle alla travailler à l'hôpital de High Prairie pour deux ans et à Valleyview en 1955. Mariée en 1956, Valleyview devint son chez-elle. En septembre 1958 le couple déménagea à Fort St-John, C.B. où ils ont maintenant un commerce de camionnage.

Denis Lonfat et famille

Denis Cloutier fut adopté par Joseph et Hélène Lonfat. Il suivit des cours par correspondance et ensuite fréquenta l'école locale. Il travailla pour Martin jusqu'à ce que celui-ci vende la ferme.

En 1968, après son mariage, il habita le nord de la Colombie-Britannique. Denis a pris un cours en équipement lourd et travailla dans le nord et le sud.

En 1983, la famille déménagea à Lloydminster.

LUBERDA, ANDREW & ROSE

by Dawn & Henry Wawrzonek

In 1928, Andrew Luberdas emigrated to Canada from Poland. Upon his arrival to Canada



Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Luberdas in front of their home.

he applied for a homestead lease on the NE 30-75-21-W5, on April 26, 1929. His wife, Rose, and her nephew, Frank, joined Andrew in Canada in 1931. By trade Mr. Luberdas was a carpenter before coming to Canada.

He farmed by Forest View, Alberta, where the Post Office was located at the time.

Sometimes in the mid 50's Andrew and Rose retired from farming and went to reside in High Prairie, Alberta. Frank continued farming for a number of years before leaving the Guy area.

On July 25, 1955 Andrew passed away in High Prairie where he was buried. Shortly afterwards Mrs. Luberdas moved to the Nursing Home in Whitelaw, Alberta. She later moved to the Notre Dame du Lac Nursing Home in McLennan. She passed away on January 28, 1967 at the age of 83. She was laid to rest beside her husband, Andrew, in High Prairie.

* * *

En 1928, Andrew Luberdas émigra au Canada de la Pologne. A son arrivée au Canada, il fit application pour une concession le 26 avril 1929. Sa femme, Rose et son neveu Frank le rejoignirent en 1931. Son métier était celui de menuisier avant de venir au Canada.

Il cultiva près de Forest View, Alberta où le bureau de poste était localisé à ce temps.

Dans les années 1950, Andrew et Rose se sont retirés et s'installèrent à High Prairie, Alberta. Frank continua à cultiver pour un temps avant de quitter la région de Guy.

Le 25 juillet 1955, Andrew est décédé à High Prairie où il fut inhumé. Peu après, Mme

Luberda déménagea au Foyer de Whitelaw, Alberta. Elle revint ensuite au Foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan, Alberta. Elle est décédée le 28 janvier 1967 à l'âge de 83 ans. Elle repose près de son mari, Andrew, à High Prairie.

LUSCH, WILLIAM & CRANDALL, ESTER

by Ramona (Lusch) Johnson

It was on January 9, 1952 that William and Ester Lusch and three of their four children set out from Cody, Wyoming, to Guy, Alberta. (Ramona, 18, Steve, 14, and May Joy, 12). Barbara, who was married, remained in Cody. We traveled with both a car and a truckful of belongings. The winter was cold and the roads extremely icy in places. We did not arrive at our destination until January 20th due to breakdowns with the truck. I remember the beauty of the vast snowy landscape en route from Edmonton to Guy. In the darkness we could see kerosene lights through the windows of log cabins in the Slave Lake area. The road was narrow and treacherous with icy stretches, putting us in the ditch once or twice.



Esther & William Lusch in 1952.

My father's purpose in moving to Guy was to serve as pastor for a group of Christians in that area. It was his first of several pastorates. Upon first arriving in Guy, we moved into a house belonging to John and Olga Zesko which was vacant for the winter months. Come spring, we moved to a rented house next to the Dancause

General store in Guy. We remained there until an old log house was moved next door to the church building which Dad had erected on a piece of land belonging to Andrew Zesko.

How did life differ from back home? First of all we missed the mountains by which we were surrounded in Cody, which, by the way is called the "gateway to Yellowstone Park". We couldn't believe the mud after a heavy rain here, as back home the soil was mostly rocky. We soon got used to wearing mud boots however! We did thoroughly enjoy living in the Guy area, although most of the time we were without the modern facilities that we had been used to. Using kerosene lamps at times, washing with a hand operated washer, melting ice blocks for water all proved very educational. It seemed like an adventure and we wouldn't have missed that part of our lives for anything. We even began to understand some French and Ukrainian during our two years in Guy.



William Lusch. Our downstairs living room, kitchen and bedroom, combination, 1952.

May Joy and Steve have good memories of their school days at the Whiteland school where Rita Turcotte (Benoit) proved to be one of the best teachers they ever had. In the winter they often rode in the caboose pulled by Zesko's horses, and a few times the caboose tipped over. It was all fun as far as they were concerned. May Joy spent a lot of time visiting with Cécile Lagacé — either at her place or our own. Then different times "the two of us would visit over at the convent".

Our neighbors near the Church of God at Guy were the Zeskos, Kolibabas, Romaniuks, Shybu-

nias and Abramovichs. We had many good times together and still keep in touch.

In 1954 we moved to Valleyview where we children could find work. Dad built a nice home, which is now the office of the "Valley Views" newspaper. He also built several other houses in the community as well as another church. Mom Lusch is now 84. She has lived alone until September 1986 when she moved into the Red Willow Lodge in Valleyview. She has sixteen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren. She passed away March 4, 1987.

Barbara moved from Wyoming to Valleyview with her four children in 1968. She is now married to Clarence Swanson, retired farmer and former caretaker of the Polar Palace in Valleyview.

Ramona married James Johnson of Valleyview where they own a quarter section of land. Jim also works as a carpenter for the Dept. of Parks and Recreation. Ramona is active as a puppeteer with a team of four "The Rainbow Puppeteers". They have three children.

Steve married Wilma Miller of Aumsville, Oregon in 1960. Presently they are in Salem, Oregon where they serve as House Parents for abused children. They have four children.

May Joy became Mrs. Arthur Adolphson in 1958. They farm in Valleyview and Art also does pressure testing in the oil fields. They have five children.

* * *

C'est le 9 janvier 1952 que William et Esther Lusch et leur famille quittèrent Cody, Wyoming pour venir s'établir à Guy.

Arrivée à Guy, la famille Lusch déménagea dans une maison qui appartenait à Victor Zesko. Au printemps, ils louèrent une maison voisine du magasin Dancause. Plus tard William fit déménager une maison en rondin tout près de l'église qu'il avait érigée sur un terrain qui appartenait à Andrew Zesko. M. Lusch était pasteur de cette église.

Nos voisins à Guy étaient les familles Zesko, Kolibabas, Romaniuk, Shybunias et Abramovich. Nous avons vécu de très bons moments avec eux et nous correspondons encore avec eux.

En 1954 nous quittions Guy pour aller vivre à Valleyview où nous avons trouvé de l'emploi. Notre père a bâti une belle maison qui est maintenant le bureau de "Valley News".

Notre mère est décédée à l'âge de 84 ans le 4 mars 1987.

LUSSIER, PAUL

by Lily (Minarovich) Brulotte

Paul Lussier was a bachelor who lived near our parents' homestead. His land was the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ -10-75-21-W5. His house was a square log building approximately 12 X 12 feet with a solid door on the south side and a tiny window on the east side. It had a wood floor in it, but the roof was a large mound of soil (sod) and the pigweeds grew 3 feet tall up there.

When we were kids we used to have to graze the cattle during the summer holidays but then in the fall they were let to graze freely as there were no pastures at that time. After school we would start out to look for them. The cow bell that the milk cow wore often led us in the south easterly direction and sometimes as far as Mr. Lucy's (as we called him).

If he wasn't at home, we would climb up the corner of his shack up onto the roof so we could get a better view in case the cattle were near-by. We always knocked on the door, to see if he was at home, but on this particular day he was taking a nap and didn't hear the knock. So up we went, and to our surprise Mr. Lucy came storming out, shaking himself off. The dirt had begun to fall through the ceiling on him, as we walked around up there. He scolded us properly and we never climbed up there again.

Another incident that happened that we distinctly remember was that he used to get eggs at our place. He usually came on Saturday, and this particular day my parents were away, but mother said that we should be sure not to give him eggs from specific nests in the chicken coop, because she had set some broody hens in those nests some days earlier. When we gathered the eggs in the other nests there were only a few so we gave all the eggs from all the nests.

Mother was quite upset with us, and when Mr. Lucy came again she apologized to him, for us giving him bad eggs. He said, no, no, the eggs were all good!

Mr. Lussier died in Falher sometimes in the mid-forties possibly 1946. He was thought to be in his sixties.

* * *

Paul Lussier était un célibataire qui demeurait près du "homestead" de mes parents. Sa maison était faite en bois rond d'à peu près douze pieds carrés avec une porte solide au sud et une mini-fenêtre à l'est. Le plancher était en bois mais le toit en terre où poussaient des mauvaises herbes.

Alors que nous cherchions pour nos vaches

après l'école, si M. Lussier n''était pas à la maison nous grimpions sur le toit de sa maison afin de voir plus loin. Un jour qu'il dormait et ne nous entendit pas, nous grimpâmes à nouveau et il sortit de son "shack" secouant la terre de ses vêtements. La terre avait traversé le plafond alors que nous marchions sur le toit.

Il nous disputa et jamais plus nous grimpâmes à nouveau sur le toit. A une autre occasion alors qu'il venait chercher des oeufs chez nous comme d'habitude, maman nous avait avertis de ne pas prendre les oeufs des poules couveuses mais comme il n'y en avait pas beaucoup dans les autres nids, nous décidions de lui donner tous les oeufs.

Maman était bouleversée et quand M. Lussier revint elle s'excusa pour nous, en disant que les oeufs n'étaient pas bons. Mais il la rassura en lui affirmant que tous les oeufs étaient bons.

M. Lussier est décédé à Falher durant les années quarante, possiblement en 1946. On croit qu'il était dans la soixantaine.

MACDONALD, JOHN "JACK" & FRAMPTON, ALICE LOUISE

by Charlotte Howe

John Henry, "Jack" MacDonald was born in Carwall, Ontario on October 3, 1889, the second of five children. His wife, Alice Louise Frampton, was born in Wimborne, Dorset County, England on June 14, 1897 the seventh of 14 children. They met during World War I while Jack was serving with the Canadian Army, in which he was wounded. They were married on December 1, 1917 at the Anglican Parish Church in Wimborne, England.

After coming back to Canada they lived in Calgary. There was little work to be found so Jack came to the Falher district to look at land. He returned to Calgary applying for a loan from the Soldiers Settlement Board, which was similar to the present day Veteran's Administration. The loan was granted for a half section of land nine and a half miles south of Falher. The loan also provided four horses and some machinery.

Jack was raised in Dauphin, Manitoba where his father was a storekeeper, therefore he had very little farming knowledge. The first time they butchered a pig they had to send away for a book first, read it then apply the knowledge.

They took up residence on their land in the spring of 1919, spending the summer in a lean-to, cooking over an open fire, while building their house and clearing land. During the first year the four horses died of swamp fever, a big loss, and had to be replaced.

The mosquitoes were a source of trouble to



Mrs. Vowden & Irene MacDonald.

Louise especially, and caused her much suffering. Being raised in a city the wilderness was a vast change and as like other women caused homesickness for a few years.

For Jack the homestead was a challenge, and finally together they found satisfaction in making their own way, also opening up the land for people to come.

Together they learned how to produce their own food, preserving it through canning, jelly making and curing meats for winter supplies.

They joined in the social life of the district, playing cards, visiting neighbors, going to parties and dances, during the winter. Summer was a busier time, but there were picnics, and trips to the Little Smoky River, wadding in the water or just relaxing on the banks.

Jack and "Lou" had one daughter, Christina Agnes Irene, born September 5, 1926 in a friend's farm home. Irene attended Ballater School. She married Marion J. White on June 6, 1944, in Edmonton, and later moved to the State of Washington where she lived until her death in March, 1981.

Jack died on May 19, 1947. He had been a member of the Canadian Legion for many years, so was buried in the Veterans' Section of the McLennan Cemetery.

Later, Lou married Joseph Gerald "Joe" Mallott and they lived on the original land for years,

then moved to Falher for a few years, finally taking up residence in McLennan as they were both in poor health. After a lengthy illness Joe passed away in 1971. In due time Lou moved into the Nursing Home and died November 18, 1972. She is also buried in the McLennan Cemetery.

These four people left many happy and treasured memories for their friends to remember them by. They were all kind, fun loving, and thoughtful people.

* * *

John est né le 3 octobre 1889, à Cornwall, Ontario. Alice-Louise est née à Wimborne, Dorset County, Angleterre, le 14 juin 1897. Ils se sont rencontrés alors que John était dans l'armée canadienne pendant la première guerre mondiale. Ils se sont mariés le premier décembre 1917 à Wimborne.

Après un séjour à Calgary où John ne pouvait se trouver un emploi, il prennent un "homestead", une demi-section à neuf milles et demi au sud de Falher où ils arrivent en 1919 avec quatre chevaux et de la machinerie agricole. Ayant été élevé tous les deux en ville, ils ont dû apprendre à préserver leurs légumes et fumer leurs viandes pour les conserver pour l'hiver.

Ils ont eu une fille, Agnes Irene, qui est allée à l'école Ballater. Elle est morte en 1981.

John est mort le 19 mai 1947 et il est inhumé au cimetière des vétérans à McLennan.

Louise s'est remariée à Joseph Mallott et ils ont demeurés sur la ferme pendant plusieurs années avant de déménager à Falher et à McLennan. Joseph est mort en 1971 et Louise en 1972.

MAISONNEUVE, BERNARD & ROY, MONIQUE

by Bernard et Monique Roy

When I was only a few months old, my dad, Paul Emile Maisonneuve moved his family to his farm NW-17-75-19-W5, ten and a half miles east of Guy. I attended Langlois School in Guy from grade one to grade nine. The classrooms as well as the school buses were always full at that time.

Every summer my mother would go to Wina-gami Lake and take charge of the Red Cross Swimming Lessons. Many busloads of children from different towns in the area would come and learn the basics of swimming. My mother and we children stayed in the "shack". It was an enjoyable part of my childhood and something my mother excelled at and enjoyed doing as well.

By the time I began High School we were



R.1 André, David, Jérémie. R.2 Monique. R.3 Michel, Bernard & Christian Maisonneuve.

bussed to Donnelly where I graduated in 1972. Going to a large school allowed me to meet other boys interested in music and I began playing drums in a band called "The Rising Sun". I enjoyed playing music and earned what seemed at the time to be lots of spending money. Playing music is also the way I met my wife-to-be, Monique Roy, daughter of Guy and Judith Durand of Falher. We were married on September 1, 1973.

At this time my brother, Marcel, and I bought my father's farm and together assumed its operation. We still live on my Dad's homestead. Farm life is always full of challenges, financially and mechanically, but what we enjoy is the freedom and the right setting for raising our five boys.

* * *

Nos expériences de jeunes fermiers n'étaient pas celles des pionniers ou celles de nos parents. Nous avons des commodités modernes dans notre maison et aussi de la machinerie moderne pour travailler la terre. Par ailleurs, je peux dire que notre expérience n'a pas été sans difficultés. A l'âge de dix-huit ans quand Bernard décida de devenir fermier, tout le monde le pensait fou de choisir ce genre de vie car il n'y avait pas d'argent à faire sur la ferme. En 1974, la situation s'améliorant chez les fermiers, il nous fut possible de faire des emprunts pour acheter la ferme de son père, Paul-Émile Maisonneuve.

Durant les premières années, la vie fut difficile parce qu'il n'y avait pas beaucoup d'argent pour les achats personnels. Tous les profits étaient employés pour l'amélioration de la ferme. L'inquiétude de ne pas savoir si nous

pouvions rencontrer les paiements nous préoccupait toujours. Malgré, tous ces contretemps, nous voici encore sur notre ferme, après treize ans de mariage.

Bernard et moi commençons notre vie ensemble avec la naissance de Christian. Etant notre premier fils, Christian nous apporta beaucoup de bonheur. C'est un garçon très sociable qui aime les gens et est toujours prêt à rendre service. Aujourd'hui, il est capable de donner un bon coup de mains durant les périodes les plus affairées ce qui est grandement apprécié par son père.

Trois ans plus tard, le 28 avril 1976, Michel naquit. Il fallait un ami pour Christian! Michel nous surprend avec son bon sens de l'humour, toujours prêt à faire des farces ou à jouer un tour. Pour se divertir, Michel aime beaucoup les jeux comme "Gaingrowin Game" et les sports tels que le baseball et le hockey.

Un ans plus tard, le 10 juin 1977, André nous fut confié. Quel beau garçon avec un si beau sourire! Il nous fallait un troisième fils. André aime les sorties mais d'avantage la visite. Il aime beaucoup les sports, surtout le ski de fond.

Cinq ans plus tard, alors que les choses étaient plutôt tranquilles le 13 août 1982, Jérémie apporta un regain de vie à notre foyer. C'est un beau garçon aimable, persistant, qui ne démord pas facilement. Son divertissement préféré c'est d'aider son père.

Nous pensions que notre famille était complète mais à notre grande surprise, quatre ans plus tard, David naquit le 19 octobre 1986. Quel bébé mignon! Il est vraiment de notre goût avec son bon caractère. Il aime s'amuser avec ses grands frères qui le trouvent bien intéressant.

Cinq garçons! Quel défi! Mais la ferme nous a toujours fourni ce que nous avons besoin pour vivre! Nous portons encore des inquiétudes mais nous savons que c'est un lieu privilégié pour élever nos garçons. La ferme sera pour eux une grande éducation dans le sens qu'ils apprendront à connaître la valeur du travail et du travail bien fait.

Avant de me marier, je demeurais à deux milles et demi de Falher. Une fois mariée je vous assure que je trouvais notre ferme très isolée et très loin des centres urbains. Les premières fois que je partais seule pour faire mes épiceries, je me demandais, "Serai-je capable de retrouver mon chemin?". Une de mes préoccupations était d'arriver à m'organiser dans l'achat de la nourriture et des autres nécessités afin d'éviter des courses inutiles. Le fait qu'il restait beaucoup d'arbres autour de notre ferme m'impressionnait beaucoup. Par contre, j'appréciais

la nature et l'état sauvage de notre nouveau chez-nous. Souvent nous pouvions observer des animaux sauvages tels que chevreuils, originaux, hiboux, pas trop loin de la maison.

Ce qui m'a toujours impressionné est le fait que nos voisins sont de bons voisins toujours prêts à rendre service et à s'entraider. Les gens ici sont plutôt indépendants tout en étant fraternels. C'est ce qui caractérise notre localité qui pour nous demeure unique et spéciale.

Bernard Maisonneuve: n.01-12-1954 m.01-09-1973

Monique Annette Roy: n.18-04-1955

ENFANTS:

1. Christian Guy: n.16-07-1973
2. Michel Bernard: n.28-04-1976
3. André Paul: n.10-06-1977
4. Jérémie Charles: n.13-08-1982
5. David Christian: n.19-10-1986

MAISONNEUVE, LEO & WAGNER, BERTHA

by Leo & Bertha Maisonneuve

Leo Maisonneuve, son of Paul and Laura Charest, was born in Beaumont in 1931. Bertha Wagner, daughter of Jacob and Pauline Kron, was born in Wandsworth, Saskatchewan, in 1931. Leo and Bertha met in Edmonton and were married in Manola, Alberta in 1951.

Leo worked as a boilermaker and refinery builder, so the first seven years of their marriage were spent travelling around Alberta and Saskatchewan. In 1952 Leo's dad, Paul, heard about homesteads being available in the north. Leo was very interested in farming, so he filed on a half section, E $\frac{1}{2}$ -36-74-22-W5 and bought half of a school section E $\frac{1}{2}$ -29-74-21-W5 in the Ville-Marie area. During the winters he worked as boilermaker, and during the summers he came north to open land and put in his residence. The moving of machines and equipment from Edmonton was quite a task in itself.

In the early fifties the route from Edmonton went through Smith, Slave Lake, then to High Prairie. From High Prairie the most used and best roads were to go to McLennan, Falher and then south to the Little Smoky River where a ferry crossed the river then on to Nairon's store. From there you took the best way you could find to your homestead: following trails, blazing your own or fording a creek.

The other way was to go to High Prairie Triangle and South toward Valleyview, crossing the steel bridge across the Little Smoky, the angling west along cut lines. It was a little closer but was passable in dry weather only. It was along this route that our McCormick tractor got really stuck.



Léo & Bertha Maisonneuve. Cheryl, Lucille, Judy, Lynn.

Two old John Deere D tractors, and one 15-30 McCormick Tractor were brought up by a 1 1/2 ton 1949 International making several trips. Leo, his dad and a brother got stuck many times and had to unload the tractor to pull out the truck. Finally the McCormick got stuck and is sitting there, somewhere on the Triangle-Valleyview bush trail, even to this day.

The family, Bertha and three girls, came in 1957 in a 22' x 8' trailer, which had to be pulled through numerous wet spots with a little T.D. 6 cat. Sometimes the water was up to the door of the trailer. They settled in for the summer, and managed to put in a garden. It rained so much that year that the potatoes rotted and the carrots turned white; harvest didn't get done, as twenty-four inches of snow fell in September.

Going to town was a difficult undertaking, because a tractor and a wagon had to be used to get to the main road, which was ten miles away, where a truck had to be left for future use.

Needless to say, trips to town were infrequent. Judy, then only six months old, sometimes had to settle for strained oatmeal in her bottle instead of milk.

In 1959, the family moved here to stay. Being used to the cities and people around, they found it very quiet at first. Some things the cities did not have however was wild berries and wild animals. The berries were delicious and the animals scary but interesting. Water was often a problem. In the winter, snow was hauled and in the summer

rain water was saved and the Smoky River was nearby.

The years have gone by, more land was opened, larger machinery was bought and the children grew up.

Leo and Bertha are still farming the original homestead. They bought the other half of the school section and they also bought land from Paul and from a brother.

Leo Maisonneuve: n.1931 m.1951

Bertha Wagner: n.1931

CHILDREN:

1. Cheryl: n.1952 m.1974 (divorced)
Kenneth James. They have two children, Robert and Christopher. Cheryl is an R.N. at the University Hospital in Edmonton.
2. Lucille: n.1954 m.1974
Chris Saville. They have two children named Damon and Ashley. They farm south of High Prairie.
3. Judy: n.1956 m.1985
Randy Boraas. They live in Edmonton where Judy is a counsellor for A.A.D.A.C. at Henwood. Randy is a counsellor at Y.D.C.
4. Lynn: n.1961 m.1986
Dave Gaydosh. Lynn works as an R.N. in the Peace River Hospital. Dave has opened his own shop D.J. Classics Glass Ltd. in Peace River.

* * *

Léo et Bertha se sont connus à Edmonton et se sont mariés à Manola, Alberta en 1951.

Comme Léo travaillait comme chaudronnier, bâtissant des raffineries le couple voyageait beaucoup en Alberta et en Saskatchewan les sept premières années de leur mariage. En 1952, le père de Léo entendit parler de "homesteads" disponibles dans le nord. Léo était bien intéressé à la culture alors il fit application pour une demi-section et acheta la moitié d'une section d'école, dans le coin de Villemarie. En hiver il travaillait comme chaudronnier et l'été il venait dans le nord pour ouvrir du terrain et bâtir sa résidence. Déménager les machines et l'équipement d'Edmonton était une tâche en soi.

La famille, Bertha et trois filles vinrent en 1957 dans une roulotte de 22' par 8' qui a dû être tirée à travers la boue par un petit tracteur-chenille TD.6. Quelques fois l'eau était à la hauteur de la porte. Ils s'installèrent durant l'été et plantèrent un jardin. Il plut tellement que les pommes de terre ont pourries et les carottes étaient blanchies. On ne put faire les récoltes car il tomba vingt-quatre pouces de neige en septembre.

Inutile de dire que les voyages au village étaient peu fréquents. Judy, à six mois, devait parfois se contenter du gruau coulé dans sa bouteille au lieu du lait.

En 1959, la famille déménagea pour rester.

Léo et Bertha cultivent encore le "homestead" original, ont acheté l'autre moitié de la section d'école et aussi du terrain de Paul et d'un frère.

MAISONNEUVE, MARCEL & COUTU, LILIANE

by Marcel Maisonneuve

In 1946, after the war ended, my father Paul-Emile Maisonneuve returned with his English bride Lilian Lever to live in Donnelly, AB. I was born May 2, 1948, the second of five children.

In 1955, my mother and father decided to settle on their farm near Guy. My sister Raymond and I boarded at the Sainte-Thérèse convent in Donnelly until October 1956 when it was destroyed by fire. Luckily, we all escaped without injury and I completed the school term staying with my uncle Laurier in Donnelly.

The summer of 1957 was my first on the farm and I remember leaving my school friends in Donnelly with reluctance. Life was simple then and the things we take for granted today were great events: roads, electricity, running water, central heating, refrigeration, telephone and finally television.



Paul E. and son Marcel winter 1952-53 trip in England.

Mrs. Cécile Aubin was my first teacher in Guy. The classroom was located in a log cabin near the church. There was little concern then it seemed in what other children had, as most of the families were establishing their farms. The Guy area was developing and many families were large. We would easily fill a 54 passenger school bus in a ten mile run.

Numerous experiences at school come to mind, some which we find humorous today, but were considered serious then. One incident involved Mrs. Caron's grade 7-8 class. Mrs. Caron used to leave the classroom to ring the bell at three-thirty to signal the end of the school day. While she was doing this, we would open the windows of the class and jump out! People in town noticed this and complained to the Principal, Sister Cyril. Shortly afterwards we were all caught and as a punishment we had to jump in and out of the windows in front of the grade twelve students during an entire noon hour! At first we found this quite amusing but the novelty soon wore off and we became exhausted. We did not leave the school through the windows after that.

Sports were also part of life in Guy, especially hockey. A great community effort was made to build an outside rink complete with dressing rooms! I think we spent more time clearing the snow off the rink than playing! Nevertheless, we did have our own rink. The team "Guy Bruins" was formed shortly afterwards, with Paul Gagnon as coach. The commercial league we played in would likely not be permitted today because it did not include rules concerning age limits, checking and slapshots. Other sports included basketball and a form of rugby-football. Rules were made up by the players because the game was played without referees. Skirmishes and fights would sometimes develop between the captains with all of us forming a circle to watch them. The school supervisors would try and stop the action and restore some law and order.

The early sixties saw a reduction in the number of farms as some families moved away to begin new careers. The summers during High School and following years, I helped my father clear land.

In the fall of 1965, I attended the University of Alberta. This was a cultural shock since most of us had rarely spent any time visiting or living in a city. That year I met Liliane Coutu, daughter of Laurent and Florentine Coutu (born Malbecq) from Duvernay-Brosseau who was completing a Bachelor of Education. In 1968, Liliane and I were married in Edmonton. In 1969, I graduated

with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. We have two children, Marc born in 1969 and Joanne born in 1970. They are presently attending J.H. Picard High School in Edmonton. I was employed five years with Alberta Agriculture as a production economist and market analyst. During these years Liliane taught in the French Immersion program at Grandin School in Edmonton and in St. Albert.



Liliane & Marcel, Joanne, Marc Maisonneuve.

In 1974, we returned to the farm, initially purchasing some of my parents' land then other land including Alfred Servant's in 1978. In 1975, we purchased Anatole Turcotte's original house which he built in 1947. Renovated as a cedar cottage, it has become our summer home.

In addition to farming we have been involved with numerous farm organizations including the Canadian Seed Growers Association, the Alberta Forage Seed Council and the Alberta Canola Growers Association.

Throughout the years, the pioneer spirit of growth, self-reliance and co-operation continues to inspire us and others in this farming area. Marcel Maisonneuve: n.02-05-1948 m.23-12-1968

Liliane Coutu: n.15-12-1946

CHILDREN:

1. Marc: n.05-08-1969

2. Joanne: n.12-09-1970

* * *

En 1955, ma mère et mon père décidèrent de

s'installer sur leur ferme près de Guy. Ma soeur Raymonde et moi étions pensionnaires au couvent Ste. Thérèse à Donnelly jusqu'en octobre 1956 quand il fut détruit par le feu.

L'été 1957 fut mon premier sur la ferme et je me souviens d'avoir laissé mes amis d'école à contrecœur. La vie était simple à ce moment et les choses que nous prenions pour acquis étaient de grands événements: les chemins, l'électricité, l'eau courante, le chauffage central, la réfrigération, le téléphone et finalement la télévision.

Mme Cécile Aubin était ma première institutrice à Guy. La classe était dans une cabane en rondins près de l'église. On se souciait peu de ce que les autres enfants avaient car la priorité des familles était de s'établir sur leur ferme. Le district de Guy se développait et les familles étaient nombreuses. Nous pouvions remplir un autobus de cinquante quatre passagers dans une distance de dix milles.

Les années soixante ont vu un exode de fermiers car les familles déménageaient pour commencer d'autres carrières. Durant mon secondaire, l'été j'aidais mon père à défricher du terrain.

À l'automne 1965, j'ai fréquenté l'Université de l'Alberta. Ce fut un choc culturel car la plupart de nous avions rarement vécu en ville. Cette année là, j'ai rencontré Liliane Coutu de Duvernay-Brosseau qui complétait son Bachelier en Education. En 1968, Liliane et moi sommes mariés à Edmonton. En 1969, j'ai gradué avec un Bachelier en Science en Agriculture. Nous avons deux enfants, Marc et Joanne, qui fréquentent l'école J.H. Picard à Edmonton. J'ai travaillé cinq ans au Ministère de l'Agriculture en Alberta comme agronome économiste. Durant ces années, Liliane a enseigné les classes d'immersion française à l'école Grandin à Edmonton et à St. Albert.

En 1974, nous revinrent à la ferme, achetant le terrain de mes parents et d'Alfred Servant en 1978. En 1975, nous achetons la maison d'Anatole Turcotte qu'il avait construit en 1947. Rénové en chalet de cèdre, elle est devenue notre maison d'été.

En plus de la ferme, nous sommes impliqués dans de nombreuses organisations agricoles y inclus le Canadian Seed Growers Association, l'Alberta Forage Seed Council et l'Alberta Canola Growers Association.

L'esprit pionnier de croissance, et de coopération continue à nous inspirer dans cette région agricole.

MAISONNEUVE, PAUL & CHAREST, LAURA

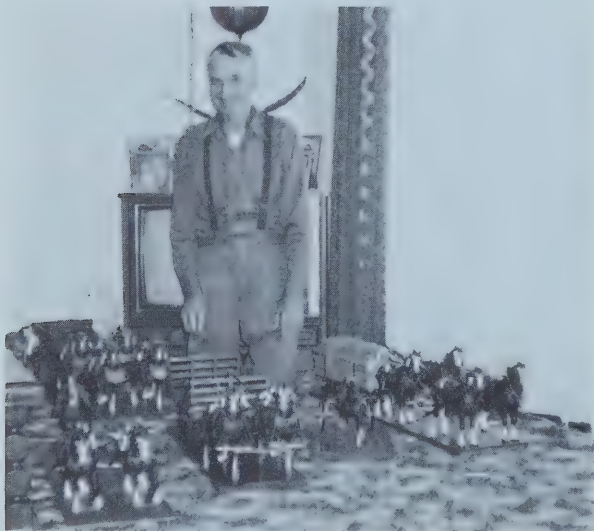
by Leo and Bertha Maisonneuve

Paul A. Maisonneuve was born in Ste. Thérèse, Québec in 1905, and married Laura Charest who was born in Beaumont, Alberta in 1907. They were married in Beaumont in 1928. They had eight children, five boys and three girls, who were raised in Beaumont.



Paul & Laura Maisonneuve.

In 1952, all the children of age filed on homesteads consisting of one half section in the Villemarie area. Paul purchased his son Armand's section W $\frac{1}{2}$ 29-74-21-W5 and Julie's homestead E $\frac{1}{2}$ 24-74-22-W5 and farmed them until his retirement at the age of 72. His wife, Laura, passed away in 1971, after several strokes, and was buried in St. Albert.



Paul and craft.

In 1972, he married Ida Emard (born Trudel) of Eaglesham. They farmed until 1976, then built a house in Falher where they retired. During the years of his retirement he acquired a hobby. He meticulously sculptured horse-drawn buggies, wagons, sulkies and other farm equipment. The harness work was very detailed and accurately finished, which required much patience.

In 1980, Paul suffered a disabling stroke which required permanent hospitalization. In 1982, Ida passed away after a short illness, and was buried in Eaglesham. At the time of this writing Paul resides in Our Lady of Lake Nursing Home in McLennan.



Ida & Paul Maisonneuve.

Paul A. Maisonneuve: n.1905 1m.:1928 2m.:1972

1m.: Laura Charest: n.1907 d.1971

2m.: Ida Emard Trudel: d.1982

CHILDREN:

1- Armand: n.09-1929

Leonne Chalifoux. They have three children.

2- Robert: n.12-1930

Yvonne Mitchell. They have four children.

3- Leo: n.01-1931

Bertha Wagner. (See Maisonneuve, Leo)

4- Romeo: n.03-1932

Ida Hines. They have two children.

5- Juliette: n.08-1933 d.1979

Bill Morin. They have three children

6- Marie: n.09-1934

Aimé Grégoire. They have five children.

7- Simone: n.08-1935

Harold Soch. They have three children.

8- Louis: n.01-1938

Bernice Komarnisky. They have four children. Louis and Bernice bought Armand's homestead W¹/₂-30-74-21-W5 and farmed the land for a few years. He then sold the land to Leo.

* * *

Paul et Laura se sont épousés à Beaumont en 1928. Ils ont eu huit enfants, cinq garçons et trois filles qui ont grandi à Beaumont.

En 1952, tous les enfants âgés de dix-huit ans ont prit un "homestead" qui consistait d'une demi-section dans le district de Villemarie. Paul acquit aussi la section de l'école d'Armand et le "homestead" de Julie et les cultiva jusqu'à sa retraite à l'âge de 72 ans. Sa femme, Laura est décédée en 1971, après plusieurs attaques d'apoplexie et a été inhumée à St. Albert.

En 1972, il épousa Ida Emard (née Trudel) d'Eaglesham. Ils ont cultivé jusqu'en 1976, ensuite bâti une maison à Falher où ils ont pris leur retraite. Pendant sa retraite il se découvrit un talent. Il sculptait des chevaux tirant buggy, wagon, sulky et autre équipement aratoire. Les attelages étaient bien détaillés et finis avec précision, ce qui demandait beaucoup de patience.

En 1980, Paul subit une attaque d'apoplexie et fut hospitalisé. En 1982, Ida mourut après une courte maladie et fut inhumée à Eaglesham. Aujourd'hui, Paul réside au Foyer Notre-Dame du Lac à McLennan.

MAISONNEUVE, PAUL-EMILE & LEVER, LILIAN

by Paul-Emile Maisonneuve

After serving overseas with the Canadian army for six years during World War II, I took a veteran's grant and filed on NW 17 & SW20-75-19-W5M. In the fall of that year, the lease was confirmed and work could be started. Bernard Boulet filed on the adjacent land and we did some clearing that fall. In the spring of 1947, Anatole and Joe Turcotte moved into the house they had built and Lilian, baby Raymonde and I, spent the summer in the grainary the Turcotte's had used for a residence the previous year. At that time, our permanent residence was in Donnelly. Commercial trucks were not able to negotiate the trail we were using as we had to go through trees, water holes, etc. and the two army trucks, one owned by Anatole and Joe Turcotte and the other by Bernard Boulet and I, were the

only vehicles able to get through. That summer of 1947, we formed a delegation and met with the Minister of Highways in High Prairie and he authorized the clearing of the road allowance from Boulet's farm to Section 11, a distance of approximately three miles. The clearing for this road was done with a 30 Caterpillar owned and operated by Bernard Boulet and I. The same Caterpillar 30 is now sitting at Maisonneuve Park, 4 miles south east of Donnelly, and is still operating. Many old machines that were used to open the country are sitting in that Park where I spend most of the summer months restoring them. One of them, a one ton 1930 Ford truck, was used by Mr. Lambert to haul the mail from Falher to Guy and Whitemud.



R.1 Lilian, Paul Emile. R.2 Marcel, Raymonde, Alain, Vivian et Bernard.

In 1948, the crop was seeded very late and there was a heavy frost in August; so much for my first crop!!

From 1949 to 1952, I was working in the bush during the winter and operated bulldozers in the summer.

In the spring of 1953, I built a small residence on my land which was the nucleus of our home. It is presently occupied by my son Bernard and his family.

From 1955, for the next seven years, I was battery operator for Triad Oil who had wells nearby. In 1955, we moved on to the farm to live year round.

1957, Winagami Lake Provincial Park came

into being and from 1959 until 1972 when swimming pools were set up in High Prairie and McLennan, Lilian lifeguarded and ran a water safety program at the Lake. Students came from as far as Fairview, Peace River, Spirit River and Enilda and all points in between for these lessons. After fighting cold water, waves, algae, etc., the students really earned their badges. Hundreds of children and adults partook of these lessons every summer as they were the only ones available anywhere in the area at the time. People would pitch their tents and stay for the duration of the lessons, cooking together over the long potbellied wood stoves provided by the Park. Many varieties of berries were picked to make into jellies and jams when they return home. Our four older children, along with local children who became qualified, taught at these lessons. Lilian never did drive herself and Betty Lindal drove her and the children out to the lake every day for these lessons for the first couple of years and after that we set up a bunkhouse at Winagami and they stayed out there through July and August every year.

By 1968, I had acquired ten quarters of land, most of which was cleared by myself.

The two older children were attending school in Donnelly until 1957 when we were organized into Luro school district, they then were bussed to Guy. Many was the time that they had to use a tractor to make the first mile to the bus because the road was impassable owing to mud. Sometimes Henri Johnson, the bus driver, had to carry the smaller ones across the ditch on a plank as the culvert was washed out. From then on, Guy became our parish.

In 1961, a few of us got together and formed a telephone co-op. Two years after the initial meeting, the lines had been constructed by Don Cote. I was the first president and Joe Morin was the secretary. There were five areas with one representative from each on the committee. Paul Lacoursiere was our maintenance man. The very day that U.S. President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, 22nd November, 1963, was the day the phone service came into operation. Initially we had eleven members on our line, however, unless our own ring was activated, strangely enough, we didn't pay any attention to the other rings.

In 1959, I ran as a Liberal candidate in the Provincial election for the Grouard constituency. Not a very good idea as Social Credit captured 61 of the 64 seats that year.

I served as school trustee on the High Prairie School Divisional Board from 1960 and until I re-

signed in 1972, representing the areas of Guy, Whitemud, Donnelly and McLennan.

In 1964, I was appointed Returning Officer for the Federal Electoral District of Peace River and served in that capacity until 1976. Lilian acted as my Election Clerk during that time. I was a member of the Board of Governors for the Grande Prairie Regional College from 1978 to 1984. I was appointed Justice of the Peace in 1977 and am still active in that role.

Lilian became secretary at the McLennan Detachment of the R.C.M.P. in 1973 and is still there. In the spring of 1974, my land was taken over by two of my sons, Marcel and Bernard, and Lilian and I moved to McLennan where we still reside.

Paul-Emile Maisonneuve; b.17-11-1918 m.16-04-1943 in London.

Lilian Lever; b.18-03-1922.

CHILDREN:

1. Raymonde; b.12-02-1947. Joined Sisters of the Holy Cross 1974. Presently a missionary in Haiti.
2. Marcel; b.02-05-1948. (See Marcel's Story).
3. Vivianne; b.22-01-1954 m.1973. Marcel Laliberte. They have three children, Lucille, Michelle and Joseph. They now reside on a farm in Jean-Cote.
4. Bernard; b.01-12-1954. (See Bernard's Story).
5. Alain; b.03-11-1966. Will be graduating this spring (1987) from the U. of A. (B. Commerce).

* * *

Après avoir passé six ans dans l'armée canadienne durant la deuxième guerre mondiale, Paul-Emile prit les "homesteads" NW 17 et SW 20-75-19-W5. Paul-Emile, Lilian et bébé Raymonde déménagèrent dans une grainerie appartenant aux frères Turcotte pour passer l'été de 1947 à travailler sur leur terrain. Ce même été là, Bernard Boulet et Paul-Emile travaillèrent pour le gouvernement avec leur Caterpillar 30 à construire trois milles de chemin pour se rendre plus facilement à leurs "homesteads".

Paul-Emile travaillait aux chantiers l'hiver et sur des "bulldozers" l'été. Lui et Lilian bâtirent une maison sur leur terrain en 1953. Ce fut leur demeure permanente en 1955 quand Paul-Emile commença à travailler pour Triad Oil qui avait des puits d'huile dans la vicinity.

Durant les années 1959 à 1972, Lilian s'occupait du programme de sauvetage à Winagami Lake Provincial Park. Elle donnait des leçons de nage aux étudiants de tout âge de

Fairview à Enilda et toutes les paroisses avoisinantes. Beaucoup de familles venaient camper au parc pour la durée et tous partageaient le grand poêle à bois fourni par le parc. Mme Betty Lindal conduisait l'auto qui voyageait les deux familles au parc tout les jours pour les deux premières années.

Les enfants commencèrent l'école à Guy en 1957, mais il fallait souvent rencontrer l'autobus en tracteur puisque les chemins étaient impassables après les pluies.

Paul-Emile travailla à organiser l'installation du téléphone dans la paroisse. Toujours intéressé dans le travail communautaire, il fut grand commissaire pour les écoles pendant plusieurs années. Il fut aussi Returning Officer pour le gouvernement fédéral tandis que Lilian était Election Clerk. Il fut aussi membre du Board Of Governors pour le Grande Prairie College. il est présentement Juge de Paix depuis 1977.

Lilian est secrétaire pour la Gendarmerie Royale du Canada à McLennan depuis 1973.

Marcel et Bernard, les garçons aînés, s'occupent de la ferme paternelle en plus des leurs. Paul-Emile et Lilian demeurent à McLennan.

MAJOR, BENOIT & TURCOTTE, ROSALIE

by Annette Johnson

Benoit Major, son of Toussaint Major and Salome Leblanc, was born on November 7, 1891 in Orleans, Ontario. Growing up in Ottawa, Benoit could often be found swimming in the Rideau Canal or enjoying the fishing on the Ottawa River.

Like many youngsters of this time, Benoit started working at a young age: first in a butcher shop, then as a cook in a silver mine, and then in an assay office in Sudbury, Ontario.

In 1910, Benoit went to visit his sister in Admiral, Saskatchewan and took a homestead near Cadillac.

Rosalie Turcotte was born to Alphonse Turcotte and Angèle Gagnon on June 11, 1900, and in the County of Dorchester, Québec. In 1902, Rosalie's family moved to Westhope, North Dakota, where they farmed until 1912. The next stop for the Turcotte's was Webb, Saskatchewan, where the prospects for the future expansion were much more promising.

Benoit and Rosalie met in 1918, and were married two years later. A howling blizzard greeted Aldéo's birth on September 12, 1921. Four years later I, Annette, was born on December 30, 1925 on the farm near Cadillac.

In 1926, Benoit sold his farm and worked for two years in the McKenzie and Cadillac areas.



Benoit & Rosalie Major.

By 1928, drought was already making life difficult in southern Saskatchewan. Benoit and Rosalie decided to gamble on a better future in the Peace River Country. Father made the trip in the fall and filed a homestead on SW-19-75-20-W5, returning home in November.

Marie was born on December 6, 1928, but was to live only four months.

The move to Guy was begun early in 1929 with the family arriving by train in Falher on March 21st. Building a house was the first priority; this was accomplished when Rosalie and the children stayed with grandmother, Angèle Turcotte, in Falher. Benoit, with the help of Gaudias Gagnon, built the house about one third of a mile from the road to be near Alcide Turcotte's place. By the end of April the house was completed and we moved in.

Rosalie was the first woman in the immediate vicinity, but other ladies arrived the same summer much to her pleasure.

Father cleared ten acres of land the first year, 1929, and also in each of the following two summers.

From 1930 to 1932, to support his family, father worked on road construction. He also worked for Herman Ethier in the spring and fall for the seeding and harvesting. Coming home on weekends was a sixteen mile walk each way.

Father was also involved in numerous volunteer and community projects. He helped build the church and worked on the road leading to it. He also served on the school board for many years. Later, he was secretary for the government

purebred bull program, which helped improve the cattle in our district.

In addition to clearing land and cultivating, father would hunt for meat, cut wood for cooking and heating, haul water for the livestock and cut ice for the home. He also dug a pond with horses and a "fresno" in 1935.

When we first arrived we had no livestock or farm machinery. Mrs. Willie Brulotte started us out on chickens with the gift of a hen and brood. Our first heifer was a present from Alcide Turcotte. With Aldéo's help, father cleared land for others and received horses as payment. In 1938, we traded a cow for our first radio; and in 1942, Aldéo purchased our first car, a 1928 Pontiac, from Joe Fortier.

Mother faced pioneering and hard times armed with quiet courage and a bright smile. She kept her family well fed and clothed. I can remember her discreetly striking out articles from the shopping list in those "make-do" days.

At different times we would board school teachers for a few months, an easy way of paying our school taxes.

The year after our arrival in Guy, Grandmother Turcotte became blind and came to live with us. She stayed with us until she passed away in 1938.

In 1931, uncle Alcide Turcotte's wife, Jeanne, passed away. Mother raised their two and a half year old daughter, Yvette, for five years.

Before Whiteland school was built in 1932, Aldeo went to school at Willie Brulotte's home. Whiteland was almost one mile north of our farm. In the spring, or when it had rained, we had to walk on Mr. Lambert's pole fence as the water was too high for our rubber boots. Otherwise, the walk was very pleasant with the occasional sighting of deer, coyotes and various birds along the way.



Aldeo Major.

In the early days, some of the main roads were already opened but there were many trails going to the neighbors, (as the crow flies), which made distances much shorter. Although a good part of our commuting was done on foot, most of our travelling was done using horses. When going to church on cold winter days, we would bundle up in Grandmother's buffalo robe. On particularly bitter cold days we used a foot-warmer into which we'd put a coal brick and the trip was fast and exciting. Come summer, in the wagon, we were glad the horses weren't cold as we had to pass over the corduroy (logs laid across the road to prevent sinking in mud holes).

Many evenings were spent playing cards and socializing. For Christmas dinner we would often invite some of our bachelor neighbors.

Going to the hospital was also quite an adventure. We first drove the horses to Donnelly and from there were taken by car to McLennan. That's what happened when our parent's fourth child, Patricia, was born on February 6, 1939. Patricia started her schooling at Whiteland and completed her education in McLennan. Besides being Mother's joy, Pat was often Dad's fishing partner. On November 30, 1957 Pat married Jean Guérin of Falher, where they still reside. Pat and Jean were blessed with five children: Jeannine, Roger, André, Denis and Diane.



Rosalie Major, first woman to settle with her husband S.E. of Guy in March 1929.

I, Annette, married Gérard Johnson of Guy on March 29, 1948, and raised a family of five.

Land clearing on the home quarter was completed in 1945 by Little Smoky Farm Industries. Father then purchased a quarter from Gédéon Turcotte. Aldéo homesteaded a half-section six miles east, near his cousins, the Turcottes. Dad and Aldéo purchased their first tractor, a D.C.4

Case, in 1946, going onto further improvements over the years.

Father built a new house in 1960 and retired from farming in 1967, selling his land to Aldéo. Benoit and Rosalie lived on the farm with Aldéo until April 11, 1972 when Benoit passed away. The following year Aldéo moved the house to Falher, where he and Mother took up residence.

Aldéo, who is still single, had consolidated his land holdings nearer to the original home quarter. He farms with a constant renewal of new farm machinery, much to the implement dealer's delight. He grows various crops, with canola being his favorite. At 65 years of age, Aldéo still enjoys the challenges of farming.

In 1983, Mother entered the Villa Beauséjour in Falher where she resides today. Yes, she can still smile!

Benoit Major; n.07-11-1891 m.09-11-1920 d.11-04-1972

Rosalie Turcotte; n.11-06-1900

CHILDREN:

1. Aldéo; n.12-09-1921

2. Annette; n.30-12-1925 m.29-03-1948

Gérard Johnson; n.26-06-1915

3. Marie; n.06-12-1928 d.28-03-1929

4. Patricia; n.06-02-1939 m.30-11-1957

Jean Guérin

* * *

Grandissant à Ottawa, Benoit allait souvent nager dans le canal Rideau ou pêcher dans la rivière Outaouais. Il commença à travailler à un jeune âge: premièrement chez un boucher, ensuite comme cuisinier dans une mine d'argent et dans un bureau à Sudbury, Ontario.

En 1910, Benoit alla visiter sa soeur à Admiral, Saskatchewan et prit un "homestead" près de Cadillac. En 1928, la sécheresse avait raison du sud de la Saskatchewan. Benoit et Rosalie décidèrent de prendre une chance dans la région de Rivière-la-Paix. Papa y alla à l'automne et prit un "homestead", revenant en novembre.

Le déménagement à Guy fut commencé au début de 1929 arrivant par train à Falher le 21 mars. Bâtir une maison était la première priorité; pendant ce temps, Rosalie et les enfants demeurèrent avec grand-mère Angèle Turcotte à Falher. Benoit avec l'aide de Gaudias Gagnon bâtit une maison à un tiers de mille du chemin pour être proche de l'emplacement d'Alcide Turcotte. A la fin avril nous déménâmes dans la maison.

Rosalie fut la première femme dans l'entourage, mais d'autres femmes arrivèrent à l'été.

Quand nous sommes arrivés, nous n'avions aucune bête, ni instruments aratoires. Mme Willie Brulotte nous donna une poule et des poussins. Notre première taure fut un cadeau d'Alcide Turcotte. Avec l'aide d'Aldéo, papa défrichait du terrain pour les autres et recevait des chevaux en paiement. En 1938, nous échangeons une vache pour notre première radio, et en 1942, Aldéo acheta notre première auto, une Pontiac 1928, de Jos Fortier.

Maman fit face à la colonisation armée de courage et d'un beau sourire.

Se rendre à l'hôpital était déjà une aventure. Nous conduisions les chevaux à Donnelly et de là nous étions conduits à McLennan par auto. C'est ainsi que ça se passa pour la naissance de Patricia. Elle commença l'école à Whiteland et compléta son éducation à McLennan. A part d'être la joie de ma mère, elle était la compagne de pêche de mon père. En novembre 1957 elle épousa Jean Guérin de Falher où ils demeurent. Ils ont cinq enfants.

Moi, Annette, j'ai épousé Gérard Johnson de Guy et élevé une famille de cinq.

Le déssouchement sur la terre de la maison fut complété en 1945 par Little Smoky Farm Industries. Papa acheta un quart de Gédéon Turcotte. Papa et Aldéo achetèrent leur premier tracteur, un D.C.4 Case en 1946.

Papa bâtit une nouvelle maison en 1960 et se retira de la ferme en 1967, vendant son terrain à Aldéo, Benoit et Rosalie vécurent sur la ferme avec Aldéo, jusqu'au décès de Benoit. L'année suivante Aldéo déménagea la maison à Falher où maman et lui prirent résidence.

En 1983, maman entra à la Villa Beauséjour à Falher où elle demeure aujourd'hui.

MARTEL, ADELARD & TARDIF, LUCIENNE

raconté par Alphonse Martel

Adélard né le 7 septembre 1903 à St-Raymond de Portneuf, près de Québec.

Son père était Edouard Martel et sa mère Adeline Pagé. C'était une famille de 10 enfants, dont quatre garçons et six filles. Cinq sont morts enfants, trois sont demeurés au Québec, deux sont venus dans l'ouest canadien.

Adélard avait treize ans quand ses parents déménagèrent à La Tuque, Québec.

Plus tard il épousait Lucienne Tardif de la ville de Québec. Ils eurent deux enfants. Il est arrivé à Falher le premier juillet 1930 avec son frère Alphonse et d'autres colons, attiré par l'Abbé Hamelin, missionnaire colonisateur. Il prit le "homestead" SE 18-75-20-W5, à un temps où tout était en bois debout à Guy.

L'hiver il allait dans les chantiers pour



Les frères Adélard et Alphonse Martel.

gagner de l'argent, et l'été il défrichait et préparait du terrain pour la culture.

Ensuite il se mit à travailler pour M. Jos Parent de Donnelly à creuser des puits.

Plus tard il acheta la machine à puits de M. Parent, pensant pouvoir ainsi réussir à gagner en creusant des puits à Guy, mais il fut déçu car ici il n'y avait pas de source d'eau, les puits étaient secs.

Son fils Ernest vint demeurer avec lui à Guy pour 3 ans, soit de 1940 à 1943, alors qu'il entra dans l'armée canadienne.

Sa fille, Jeanne d'Arc, est aussi venue avec son mari; ils passèrent un an à Guy puis retournèrent à La Sarre, Abitibi. Leur grand-mère Martel, mère d'Adélard, les accompagnait, elle resta un mois avec ses enfants à Guy.

En 1951, il alla faire un voyage dans l'Est, voir sa mère qui était bien malade. Il arriva juste quelques minutes avant le départ de sa vieille mère pour le ciel. Il passa quelques mois là-bas avant de revenir. Après son retour il fût employé comme garçon de comptoir à Hythe, Alberta.

En 1955 il partait pour un autre voyage dans l'Est, avec son frère et sa belle-soeur, Alphonse et Shirley. Et il n'est pas revenu. Il demeura chez sa fille à LaSarre, ensuite il alla demeurer chez son fils à Toronto, Ontario. C'est là qu'il est décédé le 12 avril 1961.



Adélard creuse un puits.

* * *

Adélard was born in St. Raymond but at the age of thirteen he moved with his parents to La Tuque, P.Q. He later married Lucienne Tardif and they had two children.

In July 1930, Adélard, along with his younger brother Alphonse, arrived in the West, more precisely Falher. Adélard had heard Father Hamelin, a missionary-colonizer, speak highly of this area and was convinced to venture there. When it came time to take a homestead, he chose one in the densely-wooded Guy area. During the winter months he worked in lumber camps and in summers he cleared and readied the land for cultivation.

Later, he worked for Jos Parent, a well-digger from Donnelly. Soon, he bought the well-digging equipment, thinking he could dig in the Guy area. Unfortunately, Guy had no water source and all the wells were dry ones.

In 1951, due to his mother's illness and eventual death, Adélard spent a few months down East. After his return he worked as a barman in the Hythe Hotel.

In 1955, Adélard, his brother Alphonse and

his wife Shirley, went to visit family and friends in Québec. This time Adélarde decided not to return to the west. He lived with his daughter, Jeanne d'Arc, for a time and then with his son Ernest. Adélarde passed away in Toronto on April 12, 1961.

MARTEL, ALPHONSE & BRULOTTE, SHIRLEY

raconté par Shirley et Alphonse

Alphonse, né le 6 octobre 1914 à St-Raymond, PQ est le fils d'Edouard Martel et Adeline Pagé. Je n'avais que deux ans lorsque mes parents déménagèrent à La Tuque, P.Q. C'est là que je fis mes études.



Alphonse & Shirley Martel, transportation 1943.

A l'âge de quinze ans, soit à la fin de juin 1930, je quitte la famille pour venir avec mon frère Adélarde, m'installer à Guy, ayant été attiré par un missionnaire colonisateur, l'Abbé Hamelin. C'était le 1 juillet 1930 que nous arrivions à Falher. On nous apprend qu'il y avait une nouvelle colonie de canadiens français à quelques 12 milles au sud. C'était dans la forêt dense. Nous avons pris chacun un "homestead". L'été on défrichait du terrain, et durant l'hiver on allait dans les chantiers. C'était à ce temps-là, à peu près le seul moyen de gagner notre vie.

Le 5 octobre 1939 j'épousai Shirley Brulotte, née le 1 septembre 1922 à Sand Creek, C.B. fille de Herménegilde (Mitch) Brulotte et de Marie Turney, qui résidaient à Guy depuis 1932. Nous nous sommes installés sur ma ferme SW 18-75-2-W5. Nous n'étions pas riches, mais on a su se tirer d'affaires. J'ai continué à aller au

chantier l'hiver et l'été on travaillait sur la ferme.

Ma mère est venue de l'Est pour nous visiter, elle nous a trouvés bien courageux. Elle passa à peu près un mois avec nous.



R.1 Yvette, Claire, Diane. R.2 Hélène, Lorette. R.3 Jeanne, Irène, Yvonne, Alice.

Au printemps de 1949 une épreuve nous frappa: un feu de cheminée détruisait notre première maison. On eut juste le temps de sauver l'essentiel de linge et un peu de ménage. Tout fut brûlé de fond en comble en un rien de temps. Nous avons alors demeuré dans une grainerie en attendant de terminer les semailles, pour ensuite se rebâtir. Ici je dois vous dire que les voisins, les amis et tous les paroissiens de Guy nous ont beaucoup aidé à se relever de cette grande épreuve.

L'ouvrage ne manquait jamais. Pendant un an et demi j'ai charroyé la malle de Falher pour les bureaux de poste de Guy, Ballater et White-mud Creek, en remplaçant M. Lambert qui avait démissionné. En janvier 1955 M. Dan-cause me remplaça.

Au mois d'octobre 1955, nous sommes allés faire un voyage dans l'Est avec Adélarde, mon frère, visiter nos parents et amis qu'on n'avait pas vus depuis nombre d'années. Ce fût une belle vacance qu'on a beaucoup appréciée. Mais là, Adélarde décida de ne pas revenir.

En 1957 nous avons déménagé au village de Guy, où nous avons demeuré pendant 18 ans. Nous avons déménagé notre petite maison, mais au cours des années nous en avons bâti une plus grande.

Les trois premières années j'ai travaillé pour



R.1 Hélène, Yvette, Diane. R.2 Lorrette, Claire, Shirley, Alphonse, Edouard, Yvonne. R.3 Alice, Irène, Jeannine.

Gérard Paradis, ensuite je fus concierge de l'école à Guy, et je conduisais un autobus scolaire.

En 1967 nous sommes retournés dans l'Est à l'Expo avec notre fille Jeannine et son mari, Roger.

En 1973 nous avons déménagé notre maison à Valleyview. Là j'ai travaillé un mois pour Ferguson un ferblantier. Ensuite nous avons tous les deux trouvé de l'ouvrage à l'hôtel. Shirley y a travaillé pendant 19 mois, et moi j'ai laissé quand j'ai eu le contrat de concierge pour l'école séparée. Mon contrat fini j'ai commencé à travailler pour la compagnie Shell Oil, car ça payait mieux, j'ai travaillé là deux ans.

Mais on ne se plaisait pas à Valleyview, et on voulait revenir parmi les nôtres. Nous avons donc vendu notre maison. En 1977, nos enfants au nombre de dix étaient tous partis de la maison. Nous avons pris notre retraite à Donnelly où vivait Mme Brulotte, mère de Shirley, et nous y sommes encore présentement.

Nous avons neuf filles et un garçon, 25 petits enfants et 7 arrières petits enfants.

1. Irène: n.12-07-1940 m.26-04-1962
Armand Lanctot: n.11-11-1940
Ils ont deux enfants: Norman et Gérald et demeurent à Donnelly.
2. Yvonne: n.18-09-1941 m.07-10-1958
Leo Sniezek: n.26-10-1934 d.04-03-1973
2m Lionel Thibault: m.30-03-1974
(Voir Sniezek, Leo)

3. Jeannine: n.19-09-1943 m.20-08-1963
Roger Pitre: n.24-09-1939
Ils ont une fille, Diane. Ils enseignent tous les deux à Falher.
4. Alice: n.21-02-1945 m.20-04-1965
Pierre Pitre
Ils ont une fille Lynn.
5. Lorrette: n.06-07-1946 m.20-12-1969
Gary Chouinard: n.24-11-1946
Ils enseignent tous les deux à Slave Lake. Ils ont deux enfants, Karen et Blair.
6. Hélène: n.22-06-1948 m.21-10-1967
Laurier Couturier: n.05-06-1941
Ils demeurent à Dawson Creek et ont trois enfants, Monique, Annette, Roland.
7. Diane: n.23-04-1951 m.05-09-1970
Wade Hazen
Ils ont deux filles, Sandra et Jennifer.
8. Yvette: n.14-10-1954 m.30-06-1973
Stanley Hodgson
Yvette et Stanley ont eu sept enfants: Stanley Jr., Jonathan, Anne-Marie, Andy (décédé), Tanya, Edward, Rosalee.
9. Claire: n.10-07-1957 m.10-04-1976
Roger Roy: n.07-04-1959
Ils ont deux enfants Michelle et Tracy et ils demeurent à Whitecourt, AB.
10. Edouard: n.22-08-1958 m.08-07-1978
Diane Lacourse: n.24-03-1960
Ils ont trois enfants, Debbie, Wendy et Nancy. Ils demeurent à Donnelly.

* * *

At the age of fifteen, in June 1930, I, Alphonse left La Tuque, P.Q., with my brother Adelard who had been convinced by a missionary priest, Father Hamelin, that western Canada was a real promised land.

We arrived in Falher on July 1, 1930 where we learned that a new colony of French-Canadians was being founded some twelve to fifteen miles further south, in a densely forested area. We each took a homestead in the Guy area and proceeded to clear the land during the summer months. In the winter time we worked in lumber camps which were about the only means of earning money in those days.

In 1939, I married Shirley Brulotte and we settled down on our farm. We were by no means rich, but we somehow managed to make ends meet. I continued spending the winter in lumber camps and working the farm in spring and summer. When my mother visited us from the East, she found our way of life a courageous one.

The spring of 1949 brought near disaster into our lives. A chimney fire destroyed our first

house. We only had time to save ourselves and a few items of clothing and furniture. In no time flat we were homeless. Necessarily, we moved into a granary where we lived until seeding was completed and we could then concentrate on rebuilding our home. The people of Guy were great in helping us through our ordeal by fire.

A shortage of work was never a problem! For one year and a half I hauled mail from Falher to the outlying post offices at Guy, Ballater and Whitemud.

In 1957, Shirley and I decided to move our family and our house into Guy itself. The house was small so eventually we built a larger one. The first three years in Guy, I spent working for Gerard Paradis. Then, I became custodian and bus driver for the school.

Our house moved again in 1973, this time to Valleyview where I worked for Ferguson, a tin-smith. Later we both found jobs at the local hotel where Shirley worked for nineteen months. I quit when I got the contract as janitor for the separate school. Once that was over, I worked for Shell Oil for two years.

We soon realized that Valleyview did not suit us, for we were away from our own people, so we sold our house.

In 1977, our ten kids all gone their separate ways, we retired to the Village of Donnelly where we are enjoying our golden years.

MAY, BENJAMIN T. & RICKARD, GLADYS NELLIE

by Jessi May Bisson

Father was born September 17, 1891 at Ladysmith, B.C. As a boy, Dad worked as a fisherman with his father on Vancouver Island. After leaving home he was a lumberjack and a wild game hunter for lumber camps. In the years 1909-1910 he hunted seals and prospected in the Yukon for gold and copper. Dad loved the bush and he told many stories.

In the 1920's Dad moved to southern Alberta where his knowledge of diesel engines used in fishing boats enabled him to become a renown operator of gasoline tractors that were replacing the steam engines.

In 1926 he visited the Donnelly district with Mr. Thomas Louis Thibeault who was settling there. In 1928 he came back and acquired the SE-33-76-21- which he farmed along with some rented land.

Mother, daughter of Edward and Lucia Rickard was born July 9, 1915 in Saskatchewan. Mother came to the Guy area in the 1930's with her parents and four sisters.

On August 24th, 1935 Mom and Dad were



Gladys & Ben May.

married. Around 1944 Dad managed the store in Guy for approximately two years. He also operated a planer at the time. Then he returned to farming. We had cows, pigs, chickens and geese and one of the largest vegetable and fruit gardens in the district. I recall neighbors coming at berry picking time because most years we had a surplus. Money was scarce but we were never short of food.

There was no electricity. The wood stove was used for heating and cooking. Dad cut trees in the winter and hauled them in with horses and sleigh for firewood.

We attended school up to grade eight at Ballater, one mile away.

In 1969 Mom and Dad retired and moved to Mclellan. In August, 1974, Mother passed on, and in May 1979 Father joined her.

Benjamin May; b.17-09-1891 m.24-08-1935 d.05-1979

Nellie Rickard; b.09-07-1915 d.08-1974

Children:

1. Janet; b.19-05-1937 m.22-08-1960
Harold Poole. They have three children. Marjorie, Dorman, Shawn.
2. Merle; b.04-10-1938 m.20-01-1962
Emma Tourangeau. They have two children. Darrell and Nona.
3. Gordon; b.25-05-1940 m.29-06-1963
Elaine Engbretson. They have two children. Mark and Vincent.

4. Jessie; b.29-06-1942 m.31-07-1971 divorced 1981
Raymond Bisson. They have two children. Patrick and Syndy.
5. Stephen; b.09-10-1944 m.22-06-1968
Gail Veitch. They have two children. Spence and Sheldon.

* * *

Benjamin est né à Ladysmith, C.B., et jeune homme, il allait à la pêche avec son père sur l'île de Vancouver. Ensuite il devint bûcheron et chasseur. En 1909-1910 il chasse les phoques et cherche l'or et le cuivre au Yukon.

Dans les années 20, il déménage au sud de l'Alberta et travaille comme opérateur de machineries diesel.

En 1926, il visite la région de Donnelly avec Thomas Louis Thibeault, puis en 1928, il vint s'y installer.

En 1944-46, Benjamin est gérant du magasin de Guy, tout en opérant son planeur. Ensuite, il retourne à la ferme.

Les enfants reçoivent leur éducation à l'école Ballater.

En 1969, Benjamin et Gladys se retirent à McLennan.

MCBRIDE, SAM

by R. Caron

Sam McBride, of Irish decent, was born in Ontario in 1877. He is one of many veterans who came to settle in the region after WW1.

He originally filed on the NE and SW 10-76-21-W5 in May 1919. In 1935 he sold the NE ¼-10-76-21-W5 to Elphege Hebert and the SE ¼-10-76-21-W5 to Walter Hebert, two brothers who ventured north from the Villeneuve area.

Sam then moved to a third quarter he had acquired in 1938, SE ¼-35-75-21-W5. Sam was known as a very strong and capable broad axe carpenter. It was during the construction of his new residence that he slipped while placing a heavy beam and hurt his head and shoulder. Shortly after that as a result of the injury, he lost his eyesight.

I remember Sam as a very kind and husky man who enjoyed numerous friends and the company of children. Even after the loss of his sight I recall the odd times he would walk two and one half miles to our home to listen to "Lux Theatre", a radio program which was aired every Monday night. We had one of the few radios in the district and an old truck to charge the wet cell batteries



Sam McBride butchering.

used on this radio. The neighbors would drop in to listen to a favorite program or the news when there may have been a special event developing nationally or internationally. Most of these early settlers had roots abroad.

For Sam it didn't matter if it was dark as he was blind; because of this I remember him as a special kind of guy.

Sam died in Edmonton at the age of seventy years of throat cancer.

* * *

D'origine Irlandaise, Sam McBride naissait en Ontario en 1877. Il fut l'un des nombreux vétérans venus s'établir dans la région après la première grande guerre mondiale.

Il prit son premier "homestead" en mai 1919. En 1935, il vendit un terrain à Elphège Hébert et un autre à Walter Hébert, deux frères qui étaient venus de la région de Villeneuve. Sam s'établit ensuite sur un troisième quart de section qu'il avait acquis en 1938. On sait que Sam était très fort et qu'il savait manier la grosse hache avec adresse. Durant la construction de sa résidence, lorsqu'il posait une grosse poutre de bois en place, il glissa et se blessa à la tête et à l'épaule. Peu après il perdit la vue.

J'ai de bons souvenirs de Sam, C'était un homme costaud plein de bonté qui appréciait la visite de ses nombreux amis, et qui aimait bien les petits enfants. Même aveugle, parfois il marchait une distance de deux milles et demi pour

venir chez nous écouter le programme de radio "Lux Theatre" qui était mis en onde à tous les lundis soirs. Nous étions une des rares familles de la région qui possédait une radio, et un vieux camion pour recharger les batteries nécessaires au fonctionnement de la radio.

Quant à Sam, la noirceur ne l'ennuyait pas puisqu'il était aveugle. Pour moi, il était un homme tout-à-fait spécial.

Sam mourut à Edmonton, à soixante-dix ans, d'un cancer à la gorge.

MENCKE, GASTON & BLANCHET, MARIE

by Gaston Mencke

I was born at home at #117 Kersbeck Avenue, commune of Forest, Brussels, Belgium on August 27, 1928, only son of Mrs. Louise (Pringels) and Gustave Mencke.

I arrived in Canada with my sister Andree in April 1931, one year after our parents. They had left us in the care of our grand parents and relatives in Belgium while they explored and assessed their future life in the Peace River area in Canada. After reaching a decision and filing on their homestead, the NW12-76-22 in June 1930, they made arrangements for us to join them under the supervision of a nurse, Miss Lafond, who escorted us across the Atlantic and across Canada right up to Mclellan, where our parents were waiting to bring us to the homestead.



Gustave, Gaston Mencke et Bert Doris.

In 1937, the South Ballater school was built on the corner of SW-18-76-21-W5. That is where I began attending at the age of nine, having Mrs. Robina Hamilton as our first teacher. She stayed for five years. She was followed by Mr. Mike Korpan.

Some recollections of those early days need mentioning. Neighbors and friends used to get together quite often for parties and dances, especially at Christmas and New Years. There was always a local musician to provide the entertainment; a common one was the blind boy, Lionel Roy with his accordion. There was also the annual picnic at Art St. Pierre's flat (presently the site of the Five Star Golf Course) and the wind-up dance at Ed Rivard's shack. Local, homemade spirits were quite common and available in those days and kept most parties lively and exciting.

The only means of travel was with horses, yet distances seemed a minor detail. To hitch the team to the sleigh or buggy and go spend a day at Bremont's (three miles north of Falher) or at Cailleaux's (five miles northeast of Donnelly) was quite common. A trip to Falher with a load of seventy five bushels of oats or barley, or a load of hogs for market, took the whole day. We would leave around 8:30 a.m., arrive at noon and give the horses a couple of hours rest and a feeding period, while we did our various errands and then return home by suppertime. Roads were often very bad. Muskegs and sloughs were corduroyed with poplar logs to prevent sinking sometimes right up to the axles. Snowbanks and drifts were often the cause of a sleigh upset and it was a tremendous task to erect back on the road whatever load we were hauling.

Although we did most of our travelling and business in Falher, my early recollections of Guy were quite similar. Visits to Mr. Fred Caron, Jim Gruber, and Mr. John Minarovich were quite common. It should be noted that several bachelors of the area, Henry Percheron, Mr. Lavasseur, Mr. Raoul Leclerc, Mr. Nicole, Herve Pierre and several others worked for several years on Dad's threshing outfit, or grubbing land by ax or picking roots.

In most cases, in those early days after the depression, there was very little money and people were glad to work for their room and board and "tobacco money" or to exchange work.

To continue, teachers for country schools were getting scarce, so the Department of Education set up a system of supervision provided by university trainees. These would be alternated every three months. This proved not too satisfactory to the parents. In 1942, it was therefore our parents decision to send us to the convent and school in Falher; to continue high school. We remained at the convent until our parents moved a house in town (purchased from Mr. Bourgeois) where I lived and terminated my school days. I graduated in 1946 with my High School diploma and fairly good marks, thanks to

the excellent teaching of Sister Agnes and Sister Regine, sisters of the Holy Cross order.

However, my early interest in farming started several years before my schooling ended. My early chores included feeding the stock and hitching the horses. After school hours and on week-ends, I recall tending the cows in the bush since there was no fence.



R.1 Marcel, Claude, René. R.2 Gilles, Louis, Pierre, Jean, Marie, Gaston & Huguette.

My first job plowing during the summer holidays was a piece of forty acres with a 2-14" furrow sulky plow and four horses. Since I was slightly under weight, I used to tie the reins around my neck, grab hold of the plow frame with my two hands and push with all my might on the pedal to lift the plow out of the ground.

However, the arrival of the tractor was quite a relief as compared to these horses. Dad bought his tractor from Mr. Bill Tudor, who had sold his farm and equipment and moved to Peace River to manage the Massey-Harris agency there. It was a 102 Super Twin Power Massey, pulling a 3-16" plow. Dad did not know how to drive it so he hired Mr. Jos Morin, our local postmaster for several years.

He was my first tractor operator instructor. Since this tractor was quite often broken down and unreliable, it was sold and Dad bought all the machinery from Mr. Alphonse Courchesne when he later bought the hotel in 1947. This included a new 80 Oliver which remained and did all the work (including many acres of breaking) on the farm for many years. On September 9, 1947 I filed on my first homestead, the SE9-74-22-W5 in the Whitemud Creek area. Since it was far and moving facilities were not available, I never did

any improvement on it and a few years later released it back to the Crown.

In 1950, I became responsible for the whole farming operation since Dad was no longer able to continue and was hospitalized for several years. To encourage me to stay around and continue farming, Mom gave me my first quarter of land, the SW13-76-22-W5 and rented me her three others. I continued, with the help of Mom and also hiring a young man from Quebec, Romuald St. Amand. He, in turn, remained with us several years to eventually become my brother-in-law. We would also work together at Park Brothers Lumber Mill in Whitemud Creek during the winter months. We felled and limbed trees for seven seasons. We buried the age of the "cross cut" saw and initiated the power saw boom.

But, like the old saying goes, "There is a silver lining to every cloud" the inevitable happened in February, 1951. Recuperating in hospital from a minor injury sustained while limbing trees at Parks, I was visited by a local young lady, Miss Marie Blanchet. This was the beginning of a happy and rewarding life together. We were married in Falher by Father Campagna, o.m.i., on November 4, 1952 in a double wedding ceremony with Marie's sister, Cecile who married Louis Dumont.

We had many residences these beginning years. We lived in Mrs. T. Blanchet's farm house and in a shack at Park Bros. in the winter while working. Finally in 1957, with the winnings of \$500.00 cash at a local bingo, we built our first house on the SW13-76-22-W5. We made our own lumber in the winter, the cement foundation cost \$200.00, the tin roof cost \$200.00 and the doors and windows cost \$100.00. It was 24 X 30 and we resided there until 1967, when, due to family expansion, we built our present home where we still reside today.

Altogether we had nine children. Today all the boys are still living in the area. Gilles, Louis and Pierre are active farm operators, Claude also a farm owner, is presently completing his apprentice agricultural mechanic at Smoky Farm Centre in Falher. Jean and Marcel are also both working in Falher.

The present farming enterprise continues its operation under a joint partnership agreement. Most of the machinery are jointly owned and are available to all partners. It now consists of a total cultivated acreage of 4000 acres plus a cow-calf operation of about 100 head on a 600 acre grazing lease.

To conclude, it is only with the determination and the hardship endured by the pioneers

like our parents that this area has developed into one of the most productive of the region. It has been a privilege for me and my family to be able to continue in their footsteps and to contribute to the best of our ability, to the progress of this area. We are proud of our hertiage and wish to maintain it.

Gaston Mencke; b.27-08-1928 m.04-11-1952

Marie Blanchet; b.17-09-1931

CHILDREN:

1. Huguette; b.04-12-1953 m.20-12-1975

Ben Settle. They have three children;

a) Samuel; b.23-08-1977

b) Constance; b.10-12-1979

c) Thomas; b.23-08-1983

2. Gilles; b.28-12-1955

3. Louis; b.30-11-1956

4. Pierre; b.14-04-1958

5. Jean; b.08-06-1959

6. Marcel; b.15-04-1961

7. Nicole; b.15-01-1963, died at birth.

8. Claude; b.01-07-1965

9. Rene; 07-10-1969

* * *

Gaston, né au 117 Kersbeck Avenue, commune de Forest, Brussels, Belgique, le 7 août 1928, arriva au Canada avec sa soeur Andrée en avril 1931; un an après l'arrivée de leur parents. Ils étaient accompagnés d'une gardienne, Mlle Lafond. Il commença l'école en 1937 à Ballater South, près de chez lui.

Il se souvient des nombreuses veillées de musique et de pique-niques annuels près de la rivière Little Smoky. On voyageait toujours avec les chevaux soit pour des visites ou par affaires. on charroyait le grain et les animaux au marché à Falher, voyage qui prenait toute la journée, souvent dans de très mauvais chemins. Pour traverser les "muskegs" et les "sloughs", on devait faire des chemins de corderoy avec des troncs d'arbres pour empêcher les voitures de s'enfoncer, souvent jusqu'aux essieux.

De nombreux voisins travaillaient pour la famille Mencke, soit aux battages, grubbage ou à ramasser les racines. A cause de la crise économique, les gens travaillaient souvent pour leur chambre et pension et peu de "monnaie-tabac"; d'autres fois, on faisait simplement un échange de travail. Tout en grandissant, Gaston travaillait lui aussi sur la ferme.

Il commença sur la SE 9-74-22-W5. Quand son père fut hospitalisé, Gaston prit charge de la ferme paternelle avec l'aide de sa mère.

Durant un cour séjour à l'hôpital, il eu la visite d'une belle jeune fille des alentours, Mlle

Marie Blanchet. Ils furent mariés le 4 novembre 1952 par le Rév. Père J. Campagna, o.m.i.

Le jeune couple déménagea souvent dans les premières années, suivant le travail de Gaston. Après avoir gagné 500,00 \$ à un bingo, ils bâtirent leur première maison. Ils eurent neuf enfants, huit garçons et une fille.

Gaston et ses fils cultivent maintenant une entreprise de 4000 acres qui inclu la terre paternelle.

MENCKE, GUSTAVE & PRINGELS, LOUISE

by Gaston Mencke

Gustave was born in Etterbeck, Brussels, Belgium on August 14, 1901, only son of Francois and Eugenie Mencke. He attended school at College



Gustave & Louise.

St. Michel where he studied and mastered book-keeping and accounting. In 1919 he joined the Cavalry Division Service. He was assigned to post-war rehabilitation duties in Belgium and Germany. He became an excellent horseman. He was also very good at target shooting and eventually won a top honor medal in his regiment and attained the rank of a non-commissioned officer.

Louise was born in St. Josse-ten, Noode in the centre of Brussels on July 1, 1901. Her early recollections of her childhood days are still very clear in her mind; she used to play with her friends around the Botanical gardens and l'Eglise de l'Enfant Jesus on the rue Traversiere, two very common and ancient sites that are still in existence today in the heart of Brussels. She studied and obtained a secretarial degree and worked for several firms. During the war, she and her family were forced to move out of the city to a safer area, to a little town called St. Marie-Wastines. They lived there for a few years in a lonely little cottage all covered with roses, which consequently became known as the "Chalet des Roses."

In the course of the next few years, Gustave and Louise eventually met and were married on October 7, 1922 at Linkebeek, a suburb of Brussels. They resided in several homes throughout the city, wherever was more convenient for the location of their employment. With the arrival of Andree and later of Gaston, more space was required.

In 1924, the economic situation in Europe worsened with the great Depression. Jobs and money became scarce. Gustave developed bronchial problems and his doctor advised him to move to a drier climate. Discussing this with his brother-in-law, Valentin Cailleaux, who suffered from similar lung problems, they decided to try Canada and since both craved to enjoy the great outdoors, they decided that farming would be ideal. They read and studied and picked up as much literature as possible on Canadian agriculture, at least getting a theoretical background on the industry. The practical experience was yet to come.

Through the intervention of a local priest, Pere Cossient, they were informed that there was still land available for homesteading in the Peace River district of Alberta.

In 1930, the final preparations for their move to Canada were undertaken. Andree and Gustave were left in care of the grand-parents and relatives, until they had acquired a home in their new destination. In April they embarked on the "Duchess of York" for their Trans-Atlantic



Andrée âgée de 7 ans, en 1931, avant le départ de Belgique.

voyage, via Liverpool, England to St. Johns, New Brunswick, which took a total of eleven days. Then they boarded the train for another seven days across Canada right up to Mclellan, Alberta.

Their first place of residence was at the home of Doctor Gauthier. Again, through Dr. Gauthier's intervention, Mr. Mencke was able to find work almost immediately on the construction of the original Mclellan Hospital.

In the meanwhile, by meeting and talking with the people of the area, he became acquainted with a couple of bachelors, also former Belgian citizens. Leon and Alfred Meyus. They informed him that there was still a quarter of land available for homesteading west of their land. Gustave immediately inquired and was able to file on the SW13-76-22-W5 on June 18, 1930.

Moving with the Meyus brothers in their small shack, they wasted no time, with the help of several neighbors, in cutting logs and erecting a house and also clearing and breaking a few acres of land before the snow came. The interior of the house was finished during the winter months and prepared for the arrival of their two children the following spring.

The next few years were tough. There was very little money to buy anything. Most of the food was what they grew. A big garden provided the vegetables. Moose, deer and rabbits were shot frequently for their meat supply. Even the rabbit pelts were not wasted; they were sown between sheets of cotton and made into comfortable warm quilts. A good milk cow provided the milk and butter, along with a few chickens for eggs. It was a very sad occasion one spring when "Carotte", a good red and white milk cow tried to cross the creek and drowned stuck in the mud up to her horns. A replacement was eventually found from a neighbor, but Gustave had to spend several months exchanging labour for its payment.

The summers were spent clearing a few more acres with the axe and grub-hoe, breaking, roots, picking and cultivating to be ready for seeding the following year. Horses were used for everything.

During the winter months, Gustave would spend his time making furniture from whatever material was available. His original table and cupboards are still in use today in the home of Mrs. Mencke in Falher. They would also spend many hours together making quilts and rugs.

Visiting friends and neighbors was also a



Louise & Gustave Mencke on boat coming from Belgium.

common event, regardless of distances and it was through this good relationship and constant sharing between themselves that many tragedies and obstacles were endured and overcome.

It should be noted at this time that in June 1935, Gustave and Louise were blessed with their only Canadian child, Gilberte, who still resides in this area.

In 1937, the construction of the Ballater South school finally provided their elder children with their initial education. As years went by, many more events occurred, too numerous to elaborate. More homesteaders moved in the Guy region and the area developed into a fertile and prosperous agricultural region.

In 1944, again to further the education of their children through high school, Gustave and Louise bought a house from Mr. Bourgeois and moved it to Falher, where it remains today.

In the early 1950's Gustave became very ill and had to be hospitalized for several years. However, Mrs. Mencke was able to maintain the farm with the help of her son and after a few years, she completely turned the operation over to him, and as a result, he is still operating it today with his sons.

Today, these two pioneers are still enjoying the fruits of their sacrifices and labour. Mrs. Mencke still remains in a very active and healthy condition in her house in Falher and Gustave has been living in the McLennan Nursing home under medical care for the past ten years. Both still keep a very keen interest on the operation of their former homestead by their son and grandchildren and will never hesitate to accept an invitation for a visit to the farm for a few hours.

To leave a fully modern home equipped with running water and telephone in the luxurious city of Brussels and come to challenge the obstacles and hardships of farming in a log shack in the bush south of Falher is unexplainable.

However, their example remains a monument to their children and grandchildren; their victory and success was attained by sheer determination and courage. These accomplishments will be imprinted in the history of Guy and Falher forever.

* * *

Gustave Mencke est né à Etterbeck, Brussels, Belgique, le 14 août 1901. Louise Pringels est née le premier juillet 1901, à St-Josse-ten, Noode dans la même ville. Leur mariage fut célébré le 7 octobre 1922 à Linkebeek, une banlieue de Brussels.

En avril 1930, ils s'embarquèrent pour le

Canada à bord d'un bateau "Duchess of York" à Liverpool pour débarquer, onze jours plus tard à St-John, Nouveau-Brunswick. Leurs deux enfants, Andrée et Gaston, furent laissés sous les soins de leurs grand-parents afin de donner la chance à Gustave et Louise de s'établir dans un logis convenable en Alberta.

S'étant rendus à McLennan par voie ferrée, ils rencontrèrent les frères Mayus. Ils apprirent ainsi qu'il y avait des "homesteads" à prendre dans la région de Guy. C'est alors que Gustave a prit le SW 13-76-22-W5 le 18 juin 1930.

Avec l'aide des voisins, ils réussirent à se bâtir une maison de logs et à casser plusieurs acres de terre avant les gelées. L'intérieur de leur maison fut complété durant l'hiver, prête pour l'arrivée de leurs enfants au printemps. L'argent était rare, ils devaient produire eux-même leurs nourriture. Ils cultivaient leurs propres légumes et chassaient pour la viande sauvage. Les heures d'hiver se passaient à faire des meubles, tapis, courte-pointe. Un troisième enfant, Gilberte, est né au Canada.

Tout en se supportant entre voisins et amis, ce bon couple a pu surmonter les obstacles que la vie de pionniers présentait. Louise Mencke demeure à Falher et Gustave réside au Nursing Home de McLennan.

Leur fils Gaston et ses fils cultivent maintenant la ferme paternelle.

MERCHANT, ALLAN J.D. & NAIRON, MARIE

by Allan Merchant & Clara Lagacé

Allan was born in Hughenden, Alberta on December 20, 1919. His wife Marie Nairon at Alma, Quebec on January 28, 1925. Allan was the fifth child of Flora and David Merchant. He was raised near Amisk, Alberta on a farm. At the age of sixteen, in 1936, he travelled by boxcar to the Falher district to search for work. Boxcars were the main method of transportation at that time. In those days he worked on threshing crews and helped clear land with an axe for Robert Blanchet, Eudore Lacourse and Jos Alexandre in the Ballater No. 2 district, approximately twelve miles south west of Falher, Alberta. In 1937 he worked near Brownvale, Alberta and then returned to Amisk to help his father on the farm.

In 1941 he drove his car to the Falher area to join his brother, Kenneth. He worked around Falher and Girouxville until August 1, 1942, then went to Dawson Creek, B.C. to work on the Alaska Highway for Curran and Briggs Construction Co. until 1943. Wages were attractive. There he drove gravel trucks, operated diesel shovels and hauled heavy machinery on transport trucks for Curran and Briggs as far north as Fairbanks,



Harold, Arthur, Marie, Allan.

Alaska. Having saved a little money, he returned to invest in a quarter of partially opened land thirteen miles southwest of Falher, known as Ballater No. 2 district at the time.

Allan and Ken needed farm machinery so decided to go to Amisk, Alberta known as the fried out belt at that time. At a very modest price, they purchased a boxcar full of machinery through the Settlers Effects Program, a subsidy which helped farmers relocate.

During those days home life meant cutting wood for heating and cooking, using coal oil for lights, bathroom and barn chores with the lantern and lamps for the house. There was no hydro power on farms like there is today; good water wasn't easy to get as it had to be blocks cut from the frozen river and then packed in ice houses during winter for the year's use. Many farms used horses and some steel-wheeled tractors. There were no snowplows to keep the roads open or graders to maintain the country roads. Horse-drawn wagons, buggies or horseback was the way of travel.

Allan bought his first quarter of land in June 1943 from Mr. Charles DeBaere. It was S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ 7-21-76-W5. There were 35 acres opened on it. He cleared another 35 acres that same year with the axe and broke it ready for his first crop in 1944. He built a granary on it in 1943 to live in and batch but in 1944 had to store his first crop in it.

In 1946 he married Marie Maude Nairon and lived on the quarter until February 14, 1964. Then he and his family moved to another building located on a $\frac{1}{2}$ section which he purchased from a widow, Jeanne D'arc Drouin.

On October 4, 1954 a landslide happened along the top of the Little Smoky River; land went down approximately 50 feet, affecting some cropland near Allan's land on the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 1-22-76-W5.

Allan had many hobbies. He did wiring and welding on the farm. He did veterinary work and



R.1 Claudette, Joe. R.2 Clara, Marie & Clarence. R.3 Clara Nairon, Allan.

barbering for the neighbors. While on the farm, Allan made a wood splitter, a separator to separate rape seed from barley, bundle racks and a homemade blow torch. He also played violin and the accordion by ear.

In 1972 Allan sold all his land to René Dechief. Allan is now retired but still living in the area.

Allan Merchant: n. 20-12-1919 m. 02-04-1946

Marie Nairon: n. 28-01-1925

CHILDREN:

1) Clara: n. 07-08-1946 m. 30-10-1965

André Lagacé: n. 02-07-1943

They have two children: Joanne and Andrea. Clara and André reside in Peace River. Andre farms two quarters of his own and four for his mother, nine miles south of Guy. André is a gasfitter. He hauls gravel with his Kenworth in winter.

Clara is working for AGT since 1973.

2) Joe: n. 17-03-1948 m. 22-07-1967

Marion Peake: n. 21-06-1948

They have two children. Joe and Marion live in Brooks. Joe is the co-ordinator of ambulance services in Brooks.

3) Claudette: n. 01-11-1949 m. 08-11-1969

Jacques Lagacé: n. 08-09-1945

They have two children: Kim and Karie. Claudette and Jacques live on an acreage in Pouce Coupé, B.C. Jacques is foreman for Alberta Wheat Pool.

4) Clarence: n. 12-09-1953 m. 23-04-1977

Marianne Hirsch: n. 25-03-1958

They have four children: Lana, Clinton, Lisa and Dana. Clarence and Marianne live in Estevan, Saskatchewan. Clarence works for Johnson's Plumbing. Marianne works part-time at the hospital.

* * *

A l'âge de seize ans Allan voyagea par wagon de chemin de fer jusqu'à Falber pour y chercher du travail. Il travailla aux battages et aida à défricher à la hache pour Robert Blanchet, Eudore Lacourse et Jos Alexandre. En 1937 il travailla près de Brownvale et retourna à Amisk pour aider son père.

Il revint travailler à Falber et Girouxville et ensuite sur le chemin de l'Alaska. Avec ses économies il investit dans un quart de terre dans le district de Ballater No 2. Il acheta son premier quart en juin 1943 où il y avait déjà 33 acres d'ouvert. Il en ouvrit un autre 35 à la hache et se bâtit une grainerie pour loger et engranger sa récolte.

Après son mariage il déménagea dans un autre bâtiment situé sur une demi-section qu'il acheta.

En 1972 Allan vendit tout son terrain à René Dechief. Il est présentement retiré, mais vit encore dans la région.

MERCHANT, CLIFFORD & NELL, VIRGINIA

by Clifford

Cliff Merchant was born on October 22, 1949 to Ken and Odette Dupuy. He attended the Guy School and after graduation attended Fairview College and obtained a diploma in Vocational Agriculture. After college he returned to Falher and began working for the UFA Co-op. He worked for the UFA for 6 years, the last 2 years as assistant manager in Westlock. In 1976, he returned home and bought the family farm. He married Virginia Nell in 1977. Virginia works as a Home Economist. Cliff and Virginia have three daughters.

Clifford Merchant: n. 22-10-1949

Virginia Nell

CHILDREN:

1. Christie: n. 12-12-1979

2. Jan: n. 13-11-1981

3. Wendy: n. 10-08-1984

* * *

Cliff fréquenta l'école de Guy et après sa graduation poursuivit ses études au Collège de Fairview où il obtint un diplôme en Agriculture. Après ses études il revint à Falber pour

travailler à la Coop UFA. Il y travailla pendant six ans, les derniers deux ans comme assistant-gérant à Westlock. En 1976, il revint chez lui et acheta la ferme familiale. Il épousa Virginia Nell en 1977. Celle-ci travaille comme économiste-ménagère. Cliff et Virginia ont trois filles: Christie, Jan et Wendy.

MERCHANT, KENNETH & DUPUY, ODETTE

by Virginia and Clifford

Kenneth Merchant arrived in the Guy community in April of 1937. He drove up from his childhood home in Amisk, Alberta in a Model T Ford. The trip took 3 days to complete. For the next 3 to 4 years he worked as a hired hand for area farmers, Mr. Joseph Alexandre, in particular. He purchased his first quarter, NW 23-76-22 W5 on December 20, 1938. Kenneth married Odette Dupuy on November 14, 1944. Together they farmed until 1976. They sold their farm to their son Clifford and retired to Grande Prairie where they presently reside.



R.1 Jean Merchant, Tracy Nelson, Christie Merchant. R.2 Cliff Merchant, Camilla Doyle, holding Wendy, Kenneth, Odette, Francis. R.3 Mart Doyle, Virginia Merchant, Dean Nelson, Lorne Nelson.

Together they raised three children. Camilla trained as a secretary. While working in Grande Prairie she met and married T. Mort Doyle. After living for 8 years in Inuvik and 10 years in Ottawa, they now live in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Francis obtained her certified nurse's assistant certificate. She worked in Kelowna and Hawaii before returning to Grande Prairie. She married Lorne Nelson in April, 1967. They have two children: Dean, born September 17, 1969 and Tracy, born April 6, 1974. They make their home in Kamloops, British Columbia.

Clifford took over the family farm after his parents retired. He presently lives there with his wife, Virginia Nell and three daughters, Christie, Jan and Wendy.

* * *

Kenneth Merchant arriva dans la communauté de Guy en avril 1937. Il fit le voyage d'Amisk, Alberta dans un Ford Model T. Pour les premiers 3 et 4 ans il travailla pour les fermiers, M. Joseph Alexandre, en particulier. Il acheta son premier quart le 20 décembre 1938. Avec sa femme, il cultiva jusqu'en 1976. Ils vendirent la ferme à leur fils, Clifford, et se retirèrent à Grande Prairie où ils demeurent à présent. Ils ont eu trois enfants: Camilla, Francis, et Clifford.

MERCIER, ALBERT & DANCAUSE, JEANNE

by Jeanne & Albert

Albert was born in 1923 at St. Jean sur Richelieu, Québec, the second oldest son of Emile Mercier and Cecile Martin. He had 10 brothers and 5 sisters. In 1936, he entered Normal School and started teaching in 1940. Poor health forced him to quit teaching in 1942. He went to work for Bower Company and he became district manager in 1947.

Looking for a drier climate he came to Alberta in 1950, spent a few months, returned East for the winter months and came back to Guy permanently the next spring.

He worked in bookkeeping, in construction, and for farmers until late 1952 when he started his own business as electrician when the power came to the district. In 1954, he married Jeanne



Linda, Jeanne, Albert, Dolores Mercier.

Dancause, daughter of Jos Dancause and Eva Ouellette. They had 2 children: Dolores, born May 31, 1955 and Linda, born November 16, 1960.

Lack of work in the Guy area forced Albert to look elsewhere for work. A few years were spent in the bush as mill manager. He also worked for Jossard Fur Farmers Co-op and in the hardware business in Valleyview.

In 1967, he went to work for the Municipal District of Smoky River as treasurer and assistant secretary.

In 1971, an opportunity to work with the largest rural School Division of Alberta presented itself and he joined Yellowhead School Division. He remained with them for over three and a half years.

St. John's Hospital in Edson was Albert's last place of employment. He took over Administration in 1974 and remained administrator until his retirement in 1981. He planned and supervised the building of the Edson Nursing Home; one of the finest in Alberta. Albert and Jeanne's children are both living and working in Edmonton.

Albert Mercier: n.1923 m.29-08-1954

Jeanne Dancause: n.09-05-1935

CHILDREN:

1. Dolores: n.31-05-1955 m.30-08-1975

Denis Wohland. One child, Nicole.

2. Linda n. 16-11-1960

* * *

Albert est entré à l'école normale en 1936 et commença l'enseignement en 1940. Une santé chancelante l'obligea à quitter cette carrière en 1942. Il alla travailler pour la compagnie d'électricité Bower et devint gérant de district en 1947.

Cherchant un climat plus sec il vint en Alberta en 1950, pour quelques mois et revint à Guy en permanence le printemps suivant.

Il travailla à la tenue de livres, à la construction et pour les fermiers jusqu'en 1952 quand il partit son propre commerce comme électricien quand l'électricité entra dans le district. Il épousa Jeanne Dancause et ils eurent deux filles.

La pénurie de travail à Guy le força à chercher ailleurs. Il fut gérant de moulin-à-scie pour quelques années à Jossard et travailla dans une quincaillerie à Valleyview.

En 1967, il travailla pour la municipalité de Smoky River comme trésorier et assistant-secrétaire.

En 1971, il joignit la Division scolaire de Yellowhead et y travailla trois ans et demi. L'hôpital St. Jean d'Edson fut son dernier choix

de travail. Il entreprit l'administration en 1974 et demeura administrateur jusqu'à sa retraite en 1981. Il planifia et surveilla la construction du Foyer d'Edson, un des meilleurs en Alberta. Leurs deux filles vivent et travaillent à Edmonton.

MERCIER, RENE & MAISONNEUVE, LISE

par René Mercier

René Mercier: Fils d'Henri et de Fernande Mercier Naquit à Zenon Park, Saskatchewan.

Education:

Gr. 1 à 5: Ecole Goyer, Sask.

Gr. 6 à 8: Ecole de Zenon Park, Sask.

Gr. 9 à 12: Collège Notre Dame, Prince Albert, Sask.

B.A.: Collège Universitaire St. Jean (Premier B.A. accordé au Collège St. Jean affilié à l'Université de l'Alberta).

Ingénieur en technologie électronique: N.A.I.T.

Emplois:

1971-73: Enseignant à Tangent.

1973-75: Fermier à Whitemud (M.D. de Smoky River #130).

1975-79: Enseignant à Guy.

1979-80: Employé d'Allarco Farms Inc.

1980-83: Directeur du Service Familial et Communautaire de la Municipalité de Smoky River (#130) (Falher).

1985-86: Enseignant à J. H. Picard, Edmonton.

Famille:

Epouse: Lise Maisonneuve; fille de Gérard et Carmen Maisonneuve.

Cette union a donné jour à Nathalie Mercier le 14-12-1971 à Edmonton, AB et à Michel Mercier le 29-04-1974 à McLennan, AB.

MICHAEL, PETER SR. & JULIA

by Yvette Barry

Mr. Michael Sr. and wife Julia came to Estevan, Saskatchewan from Hungary, sponsored by Mr. Michael's sister and brother-in-law, Nick and Eva Leptick of Steelman, Saskatchewan. Mr. Michael had only one son, Peter Jr. Mrs. Michael had three children by a previous marriage: Tony, Julia and Jim Kato. Tony is in the states, Julia (Gruber) is in Edmonton and Jim is in High Prairie.

Mr. Michael, a rope maker by trade, found work in a brickyard in Estevan and did well until the dirty 30's when most industries shut down. This forced the senior couple to join their children Tony and Julia who were homesteading fifteen miles south of Falher near Guy, along



Mr. Peter & Julia Michael.

with Peter Jr. and Jim. They worked very hard at clearing land, gardening and making use of their old country knowledge that "nothing should be wasted".

Mr. Michael bought 1/2 section of land for Peter Jr. who at that time was in the armed forces (1939-1944). The senior couple lived on the farm helping and devoting a lot of their time to the grandchildren until 1958. Grandpa always had candies or money to treat the little ones.

In the fall of 1958 they bought a little house in McLennan leaving the farm to their son and family. More comfortably they lived until Mrs. Michael passed away in 1966 at the age of 83. Mr. Michael with impaired vision and somewhat weakening, had a stroke and passed away in 1970 at 84.

The grandchildren have fond memories of them.

Peter Michael Sr.: n. 18-03-1886 in Austria d. 1970

Julia ?? : n. 09-06-1883 in Hungary d. 1966

CHILDREN:

1- Tony Kato 2-Julia Kato 3- Jim Kato

4) Peter Michael Jr.: n. 29-06-1921 m. 02-05-1945

Yvette Servant: n. 17-04-1924

* * *

M. Michael, un cordier de métier, venant de la Hongrie, trouva du travail à Estevan, Saskatchewan, jusqu'à la dépression. Celle-ci

força le couple à venir rejoindre leurs enfants Tony et Julia sur une ferme au sud de Falber, près de Guy, accompagné de Peter Jr et Jim.

M. Michael acheta une demi-section pour Peter Jr qui était dans les forces armées. Le couple aîné vécut sur la ferme tout en aidant et se dévouant auprès des petits-enfants.

En 1958, ils achetèrent une petite maison à McLennan tout en laissant la ferme à leur fils.

MICHAEL, PETER JR. & SERVANT, YVETTE

by Yvette Barry

An attempt at part-time pioneering in Guy was an unforgettable experience. Betty, my sister and her husband S. (Lin) Lindal, Peter and I with glitter and great hopes inspected the west and east halves of section thirteen. We ended up with the east half. How easy it would be to open land as forest fires had previously killed growth in large areas! The men took off one way and Betty and I in another. We got lost. I can vividly recall panicking at eight months pregnant, sinking a foot deep into soaked muskeg. Fortunately Betty led us into the right direction towards the car.



Pete & Yvette Michael, Betty & S. Lindal.

The muskeg, stretches of road, the distance to the nearest town, the clouds of mosquitoes, the sky blazing with the reflection of a forest fire, the fear of bears, the hard work of clearing land were all part of a new adventure. Hard work paid off for many but as a result of some events our lease

was cancelled and a huge sum of \$70.00 said, "Thank- you!"

Memories are not all negative. Lifetime friends resulted from the many difficulties. Some of the indelible memories cherished are: the beauty and feeling of freedom in open spaces, the complete stillness, the smoke billowing in the moonlight and the sparkle of snow crystals, the crisp winter cold and the crackling of the snow, the smell of burning pine in an airtight heater in a little log shack, the howl of the timber wolves as evening nears and the moon glows, the parched trees flaming as a candle during an uncontrollable forest fire and finally the spirit and closeness of a striving community.

In 1955 I accepted a teaching position at Benoit School. Again, with five children of my own and a class of nearly thirty pupils in an ungraded school, I survived for two years with the co-operation and help from the good citizens of Guy. The new highway was being built and after heavy rains, roads were nearly impassable. The clothes dryer was substituted by the wire fence all around the school. What a sight! I wish I had a picture! Hardships! no time to consider that, the reward was fast friends.

In 1959 (Peter's parents had moved to McLennan in 1958) our enlarged house, eleven miles south of Falher and the same distance to

Guy offered more comfort. The bus was now taking our children to school in Guy. Alas, on December 5, 1960 a fire swept through our house leaving us with nothing. Thanks to the many generous people of Guy, Falher, McLennan, relatives and the good sisters of the Holy Cross in Guy, we were able to rent a house in McLennan and start a home again. We soon sold the farm and bought a house in McLennan. Life had changed in many ways but what remains is our very dear children.



Birthay party. R.1 Billy Hupp, Eddie Michael, Ronnie Turner, Conrad Michael. R.2 Christopher Lindal, Douglas Lindal, Sally Hupp, Louise Lindal, Lillian Michael. R.3 Helen Turner holding Gail, Teddy Turner, Julie Lindal, Jeannie Michael, Elizabeth Lindal, Yvette Michael holding baby.



R.1 Janet, Debbie, Conrad. R.2 Edward, Lillian, Jean.

Peter Michael Jr.: n. 29-06-1921 m. 02-05-1945
Yvette Servant: n. 17-04-1924

CHILDREN:

1) Jean: n. 22-07-1946

a) Ronald: n. 03-04-1965

Jean is a secretary in Edmonton.

2) Lillian: n. 01-04-1948 m.

Jack Garand

a) Cindy: n. 02-27-1968

b) Jason: n. 02-23-1978

c) Kristofer: n. 06-09-1982

Lillian is a major appliances manager for Falher Co-op.

3) Edward: n. 26-01-1950

a) Edward Jr.: n. 08-09-1980

Edward is a milkman in Edmonton.

4) Conrad: n. 24-03-1951

Catherine Carley:

a) Megan Joan

Conrad is a railroad conductor in Edmonton

5) Debbie: n. 18-01-1955

Peter Schaff

They have two children: Kara and Janell. Debbie is a housewife; she and her family live in Lampman, Sask.

6) Janet: n. 24-08-1957

Dale Baglole

a) Darla: n. 13-10-1985

Janet is a bookkeeper in Edson, Alberta

* * *

Un essai à coloniser Guy s'avéra une expérience inoubliable. Le "muskeg", les bouts de route, la distance pour se rendre au village, les nuées de maringoins, le ciel rougi par la lueur d'un feu de forêt, la peur des ours, le travail ardu pour défricher, tout ça faisait partie d'une nouvelle aventure.

Les souvenirs ne sont pas tous négatifs. Il reste les amitiés durables, la beauté et la sensation de liberté, la tranquillité, le froid de l'hiver, la senteur du pin qui brûle dans la fournaise, le hurlement des loups au clair de lune, les arbres brûlant dans un feu de forêt et finalement l'esprit et l'intimité d'une communauté qui se débat.

En 1955, j'acceptai une position d'institutrice à Guy avec trente élèves de tous les âges, pour deux ans. On bâtissait le grand chemin alors les routes étaient impraticables.

En 1959, une plus grande maison offrait plus de confort. L'autobus transporta nos enfants à Guy. En décembre 1960, après l'incendie de notre maison, avec l'aide généreuse des gens de Guy, Falher, McLennan, la parenté et les bonnes religieuses de Guy, nous pouvions louer une maison à McLennan. Ensuite nous avons vendu la ferme et acheté une maison à McLennan.

MINAROVICH, HENRY WILLIAM; GAGNON, ALICE

by Alice and Henry

Henry William, son of John and Julia Klacka, was born in Guy, Alberta on May 7, 1935. He went to school in Edgheill until grade seven, when he left to farm with his Dad and brother John. Henry was very devoted to his father and the farm. He and his brother John worked side by side with their father until John Sr. retired in 1960. The boys continued farming together until 1978, when John moved to Manning, Alberta.

Henry met Alice Elinor Gagnon, daughter of Joseph and Ida Gagnon of Guy, Alberta, in 1955. Alice was born in Guy on August 26, 1941. She went to school in Edgheill until 1955, then to school at Alexander in 1956 and 1957.

Henry and Alice were married in the St. Guy



R.1 Alice & Tammy. R.2 Henry, Ricky, Clayton and Duane.

Church in Guy, Alberta on December 27, 1957. They lived on the family farm with Henry's family until 1964. They then built their own house on SE-33-75-21-W5. They have four children.

Henry's qualities are a lot like his father's. He is very dedicated to his farm and is an excellent provider for his family. His success as a farmer comes from many years of hard work. Alice, like Nana, is well known for her flowering and gardening skills.

All Henry's and Alice's children still reside in Alberta.

Henry Minarovich; b. 07-05-1935 m. 27-12-1957.

Alice E. Gagnon; b.26-08-1941.

CHILDREN:

1. Duane Edward; b.07-10-1959. m.22-06-1985.

Wendy Engel; They have two daughters; Tanya and Brittney. They reside on the farm near Guy, AB.

2. Tammy Lee; b.17-08-1960 .

She now resides in Coleman, Alberta and works for Westar Mining in Elkford, B.C.

3. Ricky Allan; b.17-12-1962.

Has one daughter, Donna. He resides on the farm near Guy, AB.

4. Clayton John; b.07-05-1971.

He is now completing his schooling in Donnelly, AB.

* * *

Henry est né à Guy, et a fait ses études à l'école Edgheill. Etant fils de fermier, il a tou-

jours aidé son père sur la ferme, et est devenu bon cultivateur, tel que son père.

Le 27 novembre 1957 il épousa, Alice Gagnon, aussi de Guy.

Ils demeurent actuellement sur leur ferme SE-33-75-21-W5. Ils cultivent avec leur fils Duane et Ricky.

MINAROVICH, JOHN SR. & KLACKA, JULIA

from their children's memory

John Minarovich was born in Pernek on May 13, 1892. This part of Europe became Czechoslovakia after the first World War. He served in the Austro-Hungarian Army during the years 1914 to 1917 and was awarded the rank of Regimental Sergeant Major. After coming out of the army, he became a Game Warden in the Tatry Mountain area.



R.1 Zita. R.2 Anne, Emma, Mona, Mary. R.3 John, Henry and Lily Minarovich.

John met Julia Klacka doing volunteer war work. Julia, affectionately known as "Nana" to all who knew her, was born on February 16, 1898 in Lab, not far from Pernek.

John and Julia were married on November 20, 1918 in Malacky, Czechoslovakia. They had two sons that died in infancy. Two of their daughters were born in Czechoslovakia.

On November 11, 1923, John emigrated to Canada on the ocean liner Comard to seek his fortune. He did many odd jobs in his search for a good place to settle. The quality of the soil was always very important to him. He worked in the mining towns of Flin Flon and Thompson, Manitoba, and Estevan, Saskatchewan.

Julia and their two girls arrived in Canada on the ocean liner Cellouna on July 17, 1928. She joined John in Estevan. In 1929 John left Estevan for the Peace River country. His wife and children stayed behind.



Julia & John Minarovich.

When John arrived in the Peace country, he stopped in Donnelly. There John and two of his friends heard there was good land in the Whitemud area. So they set out, on foot, looking for their homestead. They had to cross the Little Smoky River to get there. John liked the land, so on June 13, 1929 he filed with the office in Donnelly for the $\frac{1}{4}$ section SW 2-75-23-W5. Then he packed up his supplies and went back to start making improvements to the land so he could bring his family there. During that summer it rained very heavily. By fall, John and his two friends, who had also filed homesteads, tried heading back to Falher. When they got back to the river the water level was so high they could not cross. They had to camp on the bank for three days while they built a raft to take them across. They lived off prairie chickens. They managed to cross on the third day but the river nearly claimed all three lives. That was the end of the homesteads in Whitemud for all three men. John's wife Julia and the three girls came from Estevan to join him. They lived in a little shack in the Ballater area.

On October 21, 1930, John filed for a homestead on SE 16-75-21-W5 where he made his home. Julia filed for a homestead on June 21, 1932 on SW 15-75-21-W5.

To make extra money John would take contracts with the other homesteaders to clear land.

John hired on three other men, William Sawchyn Sr., John Chaibos and Stanley Olshanowski, and during the week they would work clearing the land. John said the men would work for a dollar a day. On the weekends John was busy clearing parts of his own land. In the summer of 1931, John built a log house for his family. He dug a well so they would have water for the house and the animals. Julia worked very hard making a garden and picking wild fruit to can for the winter. She said wild fruit was very plentiful. When she had milk she'd make butter



Farm John Minarovich taken 1959. Second house John built; 3rd generation residing in this house.

and cheese. They would lower the cheese, milk, and butter into the well to keep it cool. She'd also make her own smoked meat, bacon, ham, and sausage. On Sunday Julia would make ice-cream for a treat for the family.

By 1940 five more children had been added to the family, totaling eight children.

As John got parts of his land cleared, he began to buy horse drawn equipment. He would get Jim Gruber and the Verstraetes to thrash his grain until he purchased his own threshing machine. John hauled his grain to town by wagon or horse drawn sled. In 1945, John went to Edmonton to buy his first grain truck. He found one new three ton in Leduc, AB and purchased it for \$2700.00. By now John's two sons were big enough to help on the farm. John began to buy more land.

In 1954 John built a new house on NE 33-75-21-W5. In 1955, the family proudly moved into the new house.

John was a good land and farm manager, and did indeed obtain the quantity of land which was his objective when he left Czechoslovakia. He was the first farmer in the Peace area to experiment with small seed crops. His successes, especially with alfalfa, are well known. Julia was well known for her cooking and gardening skills. She was industrious and worked hard for her family.

Both John and Julia were able to re-visit the places of their births. John returned to Pernek for a long visit in 1964 and Julia made the trip with two of her daughters in the summer of 1976. John died after a lengthy illness on September 13, 1966. Julia passed away very suddenly on October 24, 1976. Both are laid to rest in the Guy Cemetery.

Out of ten children, seven still reside in Canada and one is in the United States.

Anna was born in Czechoslovakia on June 7, 1922. She married Joe Exner and now reside in

Dawson Creek, B.C. She has two children, Sharon and Donald.

Emma was born in Czechoslovakia on December 13, 1924. She married Garney Woolsey of Hines Creek, AB.

They now reside in Nelson, B.C. She has one child, Wayne Moses of Calgary, AB. Mary was born in Estevan, Saskatchewan on September 21, 1929. She married Willie Erickson of Girouxville, AB. They have six children, Gail, Wayne, Brenda, Connie, Brian and Miles. They now reside in Prince George, B.C.

John Rudolf was born in Guy, AB. on February 2, 1931. He married May LeGrandeur of Pincher Creek on April 18, 1960. They have four children, Sandy, Dale, Leslie and Sherry. They now reside on a farm near Manning.

Lily was born in Guy, AB. on September 17, 1933. She married Melvin Brulotte of Guy on November 16, 1955. They have three children, Rudy Ronnie and Mark. They now reside on a farm near Guy, AB.

Henry William was born in Guy, AB. on May 7, 1935. He married Alice Elinor Gagnon, daughter of Joseph and Ida Gagnon of Guy, on December 27, 1957. They have four children Duane, Tammy, Ricky and Clayton. They now reside on their family farm near Guy, AB.

Mona was born in Guy, AB. on July 26, 1937. She married Roger Bellamy of California, USA. She has three children Darryl, James and Geoffrey. They reside in California, USA.

Zita was born in Guy, AB. on July 16, 1940. She married Robert Sawchuk of Radway, AB. on April 19, 1960. They have two children, Trevor and Travis. Robert passed away on January 13, 1984. Zita and the two boys reside in Sherwood Park, AB.

* * *

Le 13 mai 1892, John Minarovich naissait à Pernek, cette région d'Europe qui devint partie de la Tchécoslovaquie après la première guerre mondiale. Il servit sous le drapeau de l'Autriche - Hongrie aux années 1914-17 et reçut le rang de Sergent-Major. Après sa démobilisation il devint gardien de chasse dans la région des montagnes Tatry.

John fit la connaissance de Julia Klacka qui faisait du bénévolat durant la guerre. Elle était surnommée affectueusement "Nana" par tous ceux qui la connaissait. Elle était née le 16 février 1898 à Lab, non loin de Pernek.

John et Julia s'épousèrent le 20 novembre 1918 à Malacky en Tchécoslovaquie. Ils eurent

Falher.

Jan 28-1930

I agree to grub and brush
and burn the Campbell
Quartz Section the
N.E. 20-76-21-5 S&B

Ready to make

This work is for H. Verstraete,
the amount of the Campbell
Contract for the Quartz Section
is four hundred and fifty dollars
\$450.00 to be paid when finished

H. Verstraete
John Minarovitch

Contract between J. Minarovitch and Henry Verstraete.

deux fils qui moururent en bas âge. Leurs deux
filles aînées naissaient en Tchécoslovaquie.

Le 11 novembre 1923, John émigra au
Canada pour y trouver un avenir dans la cul-
ture de la terre. Cherchant un endroit propice
où il pourrait s'établir, il travailla au Mani-
toba et en Saskatchewan.

Julia arriva au Canada avec ses deux filles le
17 juillet 1928. Elle retrouva John à Estevan. En
1929 John partit seul pour la région de la
Rivière La Paix.

A son arrivée au pays, il se rendit à Don-
nelly, prit un "homestead" à Whitemud Creek
mais les conditions pour s'y rendre étant trop
difficile, il l'abandonna.

La famille de John arriva d'Estevan. Ils s'é-
tablirent dans la région de Ballater. En octobre
1930, John prit un "homestead" et en 1932,
Julia à son tour en prit un. A l'été 1931, John
construit une maison en bois rond pour sa
famille. En 1940, la famille comptait huit
enfants. John était un bon fermier et il parvint à
posséder toute la terre dont il avait rêvé en
Tchécoslovaquie.

MOORE, ROGER & PELLETIER, LUCILLE

par Lucille Moore

Roger Moore fils d'Omer et Cécile Pouliot est
né à St-Anselme, Cté Dorchester, P.Q. La
famille recevait souvent la visite de M. George
Maure de Falher, Alberta. M. Maure leur parlait
beaucoup de l'ouest et des possibilités qu'il y
avait pour un jeune homme de s'avancer.



Lucille, Steven, Darcy, Roger Moore.

En 1961, à âge de 18 ans, Roger vient dans
l'Ouest pour tenter sa chance. Il demeure chez
M. Maure et à l'automne, après les battages, il
retourne dans l'est. L'automne suivant il
revient et cette fois s'installe chez René Roy,
voisin de M. Maure. Il demeure chez les Roy
pendant onze ans travaillant sur la terre pen-
dant l'été et aux chantiers l'hiver. Après quel-
ques années au chantier il achète son premier
"skidder" et se lance tout seul dans l'industrie
du bois.

En 1971 il rencontre Lucille Pelletier, fille de
Léon et Léda St. Pierre et se marie le 08-
07-1972. Ils demeurent quelques années à Fal-
her avant de s'installer pour de bon à Guy.

Roger travaille à contrat pour Vanderwell
Contractors Ltd. de Slave Lake, Alberta.
Roger Moore; n.21-04-1943 m.08-07-1972
Lucille Pelletier; n.26-06-1945

ENFANTS:

1. Darcy; n.21-04-1980
2. Steven; n.30-01-1983

* * *

In 1961, at the age of 18 years, Roger leaves
Québec, to venture West. Mr. George Maure of
Falher, had often told them how good the
opportunities were for a young man to get esta-
blished in the West, so Roger decided to try it.

During eleven years he worked in the Falher
area, for farmers in the summer, and in the lum-
ber industry in the winter.

On July 8, 1972 he married Lucille Pelletier, and resided in Falher for a few years. They then moved to Guy, but Roger keeps on working in the bush in winter. He has good equipment for falling and skidding and does well, contracting from Vanderwell Contractors of Slave Lake.

MOQUIN, JACQUES & PROULX, YOLANDE

par Jacques

A la suite de six années d'enseignement dans les écoles de Fort Vermilion et Wabasca et à la suite d'un bref séjour d'une année à Grimshaw comme directeur (principal) fondateur de l'école "Holy Family", notre famille vient s'établir à Guy. C'était en partie un retour aux sources, à la région natale pour nous deux. Il y avait aussi le souci de l'éducation des enfants qui devait se faire dans un milieu où le français était d'usage commun. C'est ainsi que Yolande et moi devons assumer tous deux des tâches d'éducateurs à Guy.

J'ai enseigné la septième année pendant un an, 1962-1963. Yolande commença son enseignement l'année suivante pendant que je poursuivais des études à Edmonton. Ces études me permirent d'accéder à la direction de l'école à partir du mois de septembre 1964 jusqu'au mois de juin 1967. Pendant ces années, Yolande enseignait la classe de première année. Je crois qu'elle fut la première laïque à enseigner ce niveau à l'école de Guy.

Au printemps de l'année 1967, l'école secondaire Notre-Dame de Bonnyville se cherchait un directeur. C'est ainsi que j'y succédai mon frère Gérard et notre famille quitta le bameau qui avait été "chez-nous" pendant cinq ans.

Trois de nos quatre enfants ont connu Guy comme jeunes enfants. Marc et Claude y passèrent d'heureuses années avant de faire leur entrée à l'Ecole Langlois. Suzanne, dès sa tendre enfance, devait se rendre chez les voisins, M. et

Mme Aimé Lemay, pour s'y faire garder. Ce fut ensuite au tour de Mme Jeanne Mercier de garder Suzanne, qui fit son entrée à l'école Notre-Dame de Bonnyville en 1968. C'est à Bonnyville également que notre quatrième enfant, Myriam, est née.

Nos dernières attaches matérielles à Guy se terminèrent par la vente de la maison préparée pour l'enseignant Domingo et sa famille. Plus tard, nous vendions également la terre prise en échange pour la maison vendue à M. Gagné.

Nos attaches sociales et affectives durent toujours. Nos enfants se souviennent, avec un peu d'aide de leur mère, des amis du village, des grands espaces naturels, de leur visite chez le Curé Claude De Champlain, des marchands Dancause et Wawrzonek. Yolande et moi imaginons avec un certain pincement au coeur, la lignée des treize autobus qui amenaient trois cents quarante enfants des campagnes avoisinantes. La vie a changé pour nous tous....

Nous gardons un souvenir profond de nos années à Guy.

Jacques Moquin; n.27-08-1932 m.25-08-1956

Yolande Proulx; n.02-11-1935

ENFANTS:

1. Marc; n.14-05-1958 m.26-06-1982

Cathy Major; n.13-03-1958

2. Claude; n.26-05-1959 m.08-05-1982

Louise Dubé; n.11-04-1959

3. Suzanne; n.27-01-1962 m.09-07-1983

Francois Vani; n.12-09-1959

4. Myriam; n.06-07-1968

* * *

After six years of teaching in the schools of Fort Vermilion, Wabasca and as principal in Grimshaw, our family moved to Guy in 1962. For the first year, I taught Grade seven. The next year, 1963, my wife Yolande began her teaching career in Grade one and I pursued my studies in Edmonton. From September 1964 to June 1967, I was principal of Langlois School in Guy.

In 1967, I accepted the position of principal of Notre-Dame School in Bonnyville and our family left the hamlet of Guy that had been our home for five years.

Three of our children have passed happy years in Guy. Marc and Claude began their schooling there, while Suzanne went to the neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Aimé Lamay, who took care of her. Later, it was Mrs. Jeanne Mercier who kept her. Our fourth child was born at Bonnyville.

Our material connections to Guy were ended when we sold the house that we had prepared for



Yolande, Jacques, CLaude Moquin, Charlotte Proulx, Suzanne, Marc et Myriam Moquin.

Mr. Domingo and his family when he came to teach in Guy, and when, later, we sold the farm that we had taken in exchange for our house sold to Mr. Eddy Gagné.

Our social and emotional attachments are lasting. Our children remember their friends, the rural environment, their visit to the pastor Father Claude De Champlain, the storekeepers Dancause and Wawrzonek. Yolande and myself fondly recall, the array of thirteen busses which brought to school each day the three hundred and forty students from the surrounding farm lands.

Life has changed for all of us, but we keep cherished memories of our years at Guy.

MOREAU, EDOUARD

by Annette Johnson

Edouard Moreau arrived in Guy from Montreal around 1930 and homesteaded on NE 07-75-20-W5. Edouard was single and lived in Guy for about ten years. He was a neat person whose shack was always clean and tidy. In 1937 he sold his land to George Bastien returning to Montreal where he passed away a few years later.

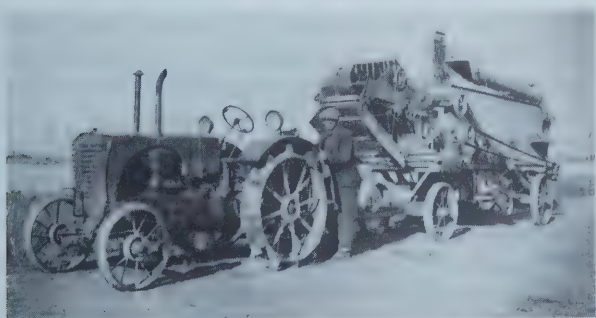
* * *

Edouard Moreau arriva à Guy de Montréal vers 1930 et prit un "homestead". Il était célibataire et vécut à Guy pendant près de dix ans. Il était toujours bien mis, et sa maisonnette était propre et bien tenue. En 1937 il vendit sa terre à Georges Bastien puis s'en retourna vivre à Montréal où il mourut après quelques années.

MOREAU, LOUIS

by Roger Winnicky

Louis Moreau was a grain buyer in Two Hills prior to coming to this area in approximately 1936. He stayed at Nick Andriowski's and later homesteaded in the Little Smoky Valley on the NE-8-75-21 which I now own.



Louis Moreau with J.J. Winnicky's threshing outfit.



Louis Moreau and Friend, 1968.

Mr. Moreau was a close family friend and was always willing to give a helping hand. He sold his land to Sven Hermanson in approximately 1946 and joined his daughter for 3 years in Vancouver.

His love for the north brought him back and he took a homestead which he later sold to Paul Maisonneuve. He then returned to Vancouver and passed away on April 10, 1971. In accordance with his last wishes he was buried in the Guy cemetery.

* * *

Louis Moreau était un acheteur de grain à Two Hills avant de venir dans cette région en 1936. Il demeura chez Nick Andriowski et plus tard prit un quart dans la vallée de la Petite Smoky.

M. Moreau était un ami de la famille, toujours prêt à prêter main forte. Il vendit son terrain à Sven Hermanson approximativement en 1946 et rejoignit sa fille pour trois ans à Vancouver. Son amour du Nord l'y ramena et il prit un "homestead" qu'il vendit à Paul Maisonneuve. Il retourna à Vancouver et mourut le 10 avril 1971. Selon ses désirs il fut inhumé dans le cimetière de Guy.

MORIN, JOSEPH & CLICHE, ROLLANDE

par Rollande

Jos Morin est né à Ste-Rose, Québec en 1910. A quatre ans il était orphelin de mère. Il est venu s'installer à Falher avec son père Jos Sr. et un frère Charles et cinq soeurs, Elézoza, Marie-Ange, Rose-Aimée, Rose-Anna et Albertine. Il a commencé l'école à Grouard à dix ans. Il n'y avait pas d'école plus proche. A quinze ans il se retira de l'école pour aider son père. A dix-sept ans il prit un "homestead", bâtit sa maison en



Jos et Rollande Morin.

“logs équarries” ouvrit cent acres de terrain à la hache. Le soir il étudiait; il s’est instruit lui-même.

En 1942, il épouse Rollande Cliche. Dans ce temps-là il avait le bureau de poste de Ballater et le petit magasin. Le soir nous allions à la rivière Smoky où nous nous promenions en canot. Quelqu’un jouait de la guitare. C’était beau sur l’eau au clair de lune.

Nous nous agrandissions de terrain. Jos prit une concession d’une demi-section. En plus d’être fermier il entreprenait d’autres emplois tel le P.F.A. (Prairie Farm Assistance), le recensement et le secrétariat de la compagnie de téléphones et aussi notaire publique.

Nous aimions la ferme alors nous travaillions afin qu’un jour nous puissions déménager là. Souvent nous allions danser à Edgehill Hall et à Ballater School North et South ainsi qu’à Whiteland.

Nous avons décidé de vendre des billets de loterie afin de pouvoir acheter un plan électrique pour la salle d’Edgehill. Nous dansions sur des planchers de bois et quand il y avait trop de poussières, les lampes à pétrole s’éteignaient. Quand on se mouchoit, la poussière nous sortait encore des narines. Nous avions quand même bien du plaisir à ces soirées.

Un souvenir me revient à la mémoire, un souvenir qui démontre bien les conditions pendant les années quarante. Un jour de printemps 1945, Cécile Aubin vient me chercher pour aller visiter Mme Marie Berthe Cloutier. L’auto, un modèle A Ford, n’avait pas de bon freins, pas moyen d’arrêter une fois rendu et on entre dans le poulailler avec la voiture. En revenant de notre visite, un gros orage survint et nous voilà prises dans le “gumbo” toutes les deux. Moi j’avais la jambe dans un plâtre qui se défaisait;

alors nous avons pris de la ficelle pour tenir le plâtre ensemble. Jos dut reconduire Cécile chez elle à la pluie battante. Pour finir la journée de visites, il frappe un couteau en chemin et crève un pneu. Journée très intéressante!



Notre chez-nous sur la ferme.

Même si nous n’avions pas d’enfants, nous les aimions bien. Jos agissait comme le père Noël pour sa nièce, Diane Fortier, et pour les enfants de nos voisins. Ernest Gagnon, Minarovich, Jos Gagnon, McDonald.

En 1962, nous avons acheté une demi-section à Guy, proche du grand chemin. Jos a bâti la maison et était fier de la cour. Quand il était à sa retraite il s’occupait de la cour, m’aidant à cultiver les fleurs et à entretenir le gazon et même le jardin. Nous sommes demeurés là jusqu’en 1985 alors que nous étions déménagé à Falher. Jos n’a pas habité cette maison longtemps. Parce qu’il était déjà souffrant, il a passé plusieurs mois à l’hôpital et est décédé le 1 juin 1985.

Joseph Morin: n. 14-06-1910 m. 29-06-1942 d. 01-06-1985

Rollande Cliche: n. 08-07-1919

* * *

At the age of four, Jos lost his mother. He moved to Falher from Ste-Rose, Quebec with his father Jos Sr. and a brother, Charles and five sisters, Elézoza, Maire-Ange, Rose Aimée, Rose Anna and Albertine. He started school in Grouard at the age of ten. There was no school closer. At fifteen he left school to help his father. At seventeen he took a homestead, built a log house and opened up one hundred acres by axe; at night, he would study. He was self-educated.

In 1942 he married Rollande Cliche. At this

time he held Ballater's post office and a small store. In the evening we would go to the Smoky river and go canoeing. Someone would play the guitar. It was beautiful on the river by moonlight.

We gradually got more land. Jos took a one-half section lease. Apart from being a farmer, he was employed by the P.F.A. (Prairie Farm Assistance), would do census work, was secretary of the phone company and also commissioner of oaths.

We both loved the farm and worked hard in order to be able to live there one day.

Often we would go dancing at Edgehill hall, at North and South Ballater Schools and at Whiteland. We decided to sell lottery tickets in order to buy an electric plant for Edgehill hall. We would dance on wooden floors and when too much dust had accumulated, the kerosene lamps would go out. We still had a great deal of fun at these dances.

Even though we had no children, we loved them dearly. Jos would dress up as Santa Claus for his niece, Diane Fortier and for our neighbor's children, Ernest Gagnon, Minarovich, Jos Gagnon and McDonald.

In 1962 we bought a half-section at Guy, on the highway. Jos built a house and was proud of our yard. Now that he was retired, he would tend to the yard, helping me with the flowers, the lawn and even the garden. We lived there until 1985 when we moved to Falher in a new house. Jos did not live in this house for long. Since he was already suffering he stayed many months in the hospital and passed away in June 1, 1985.

MORIN, JOSEPH

par Marie Gagné

Venant du Québec, M. Morin, un homme d'âge moyen, arrive à Guy pendant les années quarante. Cet homme n'avait qu'un bras, l'autre bras était infirme, bien court. Cela ne l'empêchait pas d'avoir bien du courage. Il nous le prouva de plusieurs manières.

Il acheta le terrain S.W. 76-20-W5 pour trois cents dollars. Comme ça lui prenait des machines et des chevaux pour cultiver, il s'est acheté quatre chevaux et des machines. Il avait quinze acres en culture. Comme cela n'était pas suffisant pour gagner sa vie, cet homme courageux allait passer son hiver au chantier de M. Ernest Brulotte où il travaillait comme claireur de scie. Chose étrange, avec un bras seulement il fournissait la scie. Lorsqu'il revint du bois il s'est acheté un tracteur V.A. Case. Quelle différence d'avec ses chevaux!

Il a aussi fait du défrichage pour se faire de

l'argent. En plus d'être courageux, il avait une grande foi. Il marcha jusqu'à Girouxville, une distance de vingt milles pour aller au pèlerinage à Notre Dame de Lourdes. Il partit de Guy pendant les années soixante pour retourner dans l'Est. Il est revenu finir ses jours à Edmonton peu de temps après.

* * *

Coming from Quebec, Mr. Morin, a middle-aged man arrived in Guy in the forties. This man had only one good arm, the other was lame and really short. This did not prevent him from having a great deal of courage. He proved that in many ways.

He bought a quarter for three hundred dollars. As he needed machinery and horses to farm, he bought himself four horses and machinery. He had fifteen acres in cultivation. Since this was not enough to make a living this courageous man went to Mr. Ernest Brulotte's lumber camp for the winter where he would clear the saw. Strange to say, with only one arm he would keep up with the saw. When he came back he bought himself a V.A. Case tractor. What a difference than with his horses!

He also opened land to earn money. Apart from being courageous he had a lot of faith. He walked to Girouxville, a distance of twenty miles on a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes.

He left Guy in the sixties to return down east.

He came back to Edmonton not long after.

MORTINSON, CHARLEY (PEG LEG)

by Bud Caron

Of Danish descent, Charley Mortinson was born in the 1880's. He came to the Guy area around 1936 from Calgary where he was supposed to have operated a pub during the prohibition.

He bought SE ¼ -5-76-21-W5 from Eloi Lacourse. He was a bachelor and always farmed with horses even though he was handicapped with a peg leg as a result of a coal mine accident. He managed most of his work by himself. He was sometimes referred to as "Ground Hog Charley" probably because he was always digging ditches and building dikes to control the water problems. At harvest time, he would hire a grain separator and a crew of men but there weren't too many harvesters who would take too kindly to his grub. Most of his visitors would come from the "consumers of suds" as Charley was known to always have beer stashed under his bed. He would, most of the time, sit there with visitors



Charlie Mortenson.

and charge them for the beer that was drunk, even what he drank.

Charley had an artificial leg but never used it because it wore out too fast with the tests he would put it through and it was too costly to repair. So he always stumped around with his peg leg. Rumor was that between Mr. Elzear Cloutier and Charley, they would share a new pair of boots as they were missing opposite limbs. As the story went, Mr. Cloutier always ended up buying most of the boots.

Charley sold his land to Herve Drouin in 1956 or 57 and ventured to Vancouver to retire where he passed away in the early 1960's.

* * *

Charley est né dans les années 1880 et de descendance Danoise. Il est arrivé à Guy en 1936.

Il acheta le terrain SE 1/4 5-76-21-W5 d'Eloi Lacourse. Il travaillait le terrain avec des chevaux même s'il avait une jambe de bois, résultat d'un accident de mine.

Il vendit son terrain à Hervé Drouin en 1956 ou 1957 et se retira à Vancouver, C.B., où il mourut au début des années soixante.

NADEAU, EMILIA

by Emilia

I, Emilia live and farm the SE 1/2 23-76-21-W5 since 1977 having moved from Donnelly. I presently farm with Lawrence Massey.

Since there were no improvements on this land which was part of Hormidas Fortier's estate,

we've been busy installing water and sewer system as well as erecting farm buildings.

Because of my love of plants, we soon built a greenhouse and of course enriched a patch of land for a large garden where I can grow flowers as well as vegetables. Lawrence, a twin to Florence, was born at home on a farm in McGee, Saskatchewan. Because of complications, the midwife who had assisted at the birth had to have the babies transferred to the Rosetown, Sask. hospital but it turned out all right.

In August 1977, my pioneer father, Mr. Emile Nadeau spent his last year with us. He died in November 1978.

Emilia Nadeau: n.02-08-1933 m.06-07-1954 to François Brochu, divorced 04-02-1972

Lawrence Massey: n.05-06-1930

Children of Emilia and François:

1. Victor: n.03-06-1957

Iona Blonke:

They have one boy and live in Peace River.

2. Clement: n.06-06-1958

Jocelyn Summers:

They have a girl and a boy and live in Donnelly.

3. Roger: n.06-04-1960

4. Pierre: n.14-04-1962

5. Leo: n.09-06-1963

* * *

Je demeure sur une ferme au sud de Donnelly depuis 1977, et je travaille avec Lawrence Massey.

Sur cette terre qui faisait partie de la concession de Hormidas Fortier, il n'y avait aucune amélioration. Nous y avons donc installé l'eau courante et des bâtisses de ferme.

J'aime beaucoup les plantes, et ça ne fut pas long avant que nous y aménagions une serre chaude et bien entendu nous avons préparé le terrain pour un grand jardin où je peux cultiver des fleurs aussi bien que des légumes.

Lawrence, frère jumeau de Florence est né dans la maison paternelle à McGee en Sask.

En août, 1977, mon père, M. Emile Nadeau, qui fut un pionnier vint finir ses jours avec nous; il mourut en novembre 1978.

NAIDOO, KEN & NAIDOO, DEEDLE

by Ken Naidoo

Our forefathers had arrived in South Africa from India in the 1860's to work as indentured labourers on Natal's sugar cane fields. Their contracts stated that they could remain on as "citizens" of the country, or return to India and lose forever the chance of citizenship. Most opted for



Jos Gagnon, Charlie Gagnon, Ernest (Fee) Gagnon, Anil Deedle, Prakash Naidoo.

the former option. As they adjusted to the rigours of a new country, laws were enacted which progressively reduced their already restricted freedom.

Therein lies the reason for our arrival in Canada. We could see that while we were relatively well off compared to the blacks, nevertheless, on the average, we were earning between 50 and 60 percent of salaries compared to that of our white counterparts, and even less for women. Many of us who were aware of what the future held for ourselves and our children began casting our eyes about for suitable countries to emigrate to. The few countries that were available were not particularly suitable: Britain already had a big influx of non-Whites, especially from the West Indies and the Indian sub-continent, and problems were becoming apparent. Emigrating to the new self-governing states such as Ghana and Nigeria was very tempting as many of our friends had already accepted good positions there. But we were not certain of our future in these countries. Elsewhere, Australia was still sticking to its "White Australia" policy, while India, with its low standard of living, was definitely out of the question in regard to our settling there.

Finally, around 1964, when Canada opened its doors to non-Whites, we decided that this was an opportunity too good to miss. However, it was only in early 1966 that we made our first genuine moves, and began corresponding with a South African friend who was living in Saskatchewan. We seemed to be making little progress, mainly because we were quite unacquainted as to what the requirements for entry really were. We had almost given up on the idea of emigrating to Canada when, on July 20, 1966, a chance meeting with my brother Larry (presently superintendent at Athabasca), totally changed the outlook for us. Larry had just gone to the post office to cable

acceptance of a teaching position in Grande Prairie. I told him that I too had been hoping for a position but that matters were at a standstill. Larry then stated that he had received another job offer, this time in High Prairie, and suggested, since he and I had the same qualifications, that I cable Harold Jepson, the Superintendent in High Prairie, and inform him of my interest in the position.

This I did with considerable alacrity, and by the end of July, 1966, I had a reply from Mr. Jepson offering me the job, which, of course, I accepted. I was to assume duty at the Guy (Lan-
glois) School on September 1, 1966. We had just started the Spring Term in South Africa when I sent my letter of resignation as Principal of the Omdraai School, at which my wife, Deedle, and I were teaching. I received a shock when the Natal Education Department refused to accept my resignation on a technicality. According to regulations, I could only be released from my position after a complete term had elapsed, and, effectively, this would be December 10, 1966. I so informed Mr. Jepson and it appeared that my chances of emigrating that year were at an end.

Around mid-August, I received a telephone call from Mr. Jepson suggesting that since Deedle was also a teacher (how did he know this?), he would be able to hold my position for me, were she to arrive ahead of me; and she too would be assured of a position. I agreed, knowing full well that in South Africa women, once they married, were placed on temporary contract, and could lose their job at 24 hours' notice. When I informed Deedle, she readily agreed that it was the best solution to the problem.

So Deedle sent in her letter of resignation, and we made hectic preparations in order for her to leave by September 30. As often happens, nothing seemed to go right. The X-rays had to be



Vinesh, Prakash, Deedle, Ken, Anil.

re-taken, airline bookings could only be guaranteed to London and no further, and, through some bureaucratic bungling, the visa which had been issued in mid-August expired on September 30.

Deedle did, though, depart from South Africa on September 30. Arriving in London the same day, she virtually demanded her way onto a flight to Canada, Montreal first, then Edmonton. With her were our two older boys, Parkash (5), presently completing dentistry, and Anil (2½), who is studying to enter the Diplomatic Corps. Prakash seemed to have a good grasp of the situation, but Anil, much younger, could not really grasp the situation, especially why Dad was not accompanying them.

On arriving in Edmonton, Deedle registered at the old Mayfair Hotel, and was surprised to receive a phone call from the Board Chairman, Mr. G. Wahlstrom, who informed her that she had just missed a ride to High Prairie. She eventually boarded the Greyhound "milk run" to High Prairie via Athabasca. Thoroughly exhausted by now, she arrived in the late afternoon in High Prairie, and was met by Mr. and Mrs. Jepson. After tea, and refusing an offer to spend the night in High Prairie, she was driven to Guy by Mr. Jepson. The Sisters at the Convent at which Deedle was to board assumed that we did not have any children, and probably were surprised to see two of them arriving with the new teacher.

Things, however, were worked out, so that by the end of the week or two the School Division set up a 10 x 40 trailer behind the school, and the wait began for my arrival.

In the meantime, in South Africa, "heroic" efforts were being made, trying to cut through red tape, so that I might join the family without too much delay. Sad to say, every one of the attempts ended in dismal failure. In response to my pleas, attractive promotional positions were offered to me in hope of changing my mind. Also, in one of the last abortive attempts, one of the interviewers had the temerity to ask me the question, "Why would you want to leave a position where you are teaching children of your own race, and take up a position where you will instruct whites?". So I had to wait patiently for December to arrive. My final inspection was concluded a few days before I left South Africa, and I concluded last minute preparations.

Compared to Deedle's, my flight to Canada was uneventful. On my arrival in Edmonton, I was met by Mervin Kurtz, then the Supervisor of Instruction for the Division, who was at the University at the time. At his invitation, I spent a

couple of most pleasant nights at his home, and finally made my way via Greyhound to Guy.

On December 14, 1966, Mr. J. Moquin met me at the bus stop and drove me to the school.

One other person in Guy was very happy to see the arrival of the new teacher---Mrs. Caron. She had held fort for me, taking care of the Grade 5 class since September. Now she could really retire, and take things easy, as she well deserved.

Taking charge of a Grade 5 classroom in Canada was a new experience indeed. A similar class in South Africa had quite a different outlook in terms of education and other aspects. The South African (Indian) students (in 1966) were well disciplined almost to the point of being too submissive, and had been taught from a rather young age that receiving an education was one of their few chances in being able to survive the harsh realities of the political situation in that country. Thus, as you can see, controlling a class in South Africa was a relatively easy task. There was no question in anyone's mind who the "boss" is in a class in South Africa.

As one can imagine, similar methods in a South African class would not be well received. It did not take me long to learn that in order to be a good educator, I would have to change drastically the methods that I had hitherto used. It was a long and slow process, but, I think, I adjusted fairly well. I learned that it was quite easy to maintain discipline without being a martinet, and that much better results could be achieved by having a good and somewhat easy-going relationship with the students. By the time June 1966 arrived, both teacher and students, I am sure, adjusted somewhat in order to establish a working relationship, and achieve something concrete in the end.

But adjustments in the classroom were not the only ones to be made. We had to make adjustments to a new staff, to a new family and social situation, and many other besides.

Guy School was a French Canadian school, and a large percentage of the students had a French background and spoke French. Deedle and I, two Australian and two English teachers were the only non-French teachers on a staff of about twenty. One thing stands out in my mind: Never at any time were Deedle and I made to feel "foreign" and unwanted. It would have been normal and understandable for the French staff to use French as their day to day language, but every single one of them had the consideration and courtesy to revert to English when we were present. As the years passed by, we were made to feel very much at home. For this we thank Mr. Moquin and his staff.

Our family and social situations were now changed to a great extent. We were in a new country with no relatives, let alone South Africans, nearby. We had been the first of that wave of immigrants from South Africa into Canada. We thus had to become more closely knit as a family until new friends could be made. There only was staff interaction initially, and the making of friends came slowly. Two of our closest friends were "Fee" and Celine Gagnon in the Guy area, together with many others. In McLaren, we met Jack and Ruth Buchanan. Many of these friendships have survived the test of time.

After eighteen months in the tiny trailer, we moved to the house of Charlie Gagnon. This was possible because Marie Gagnon had enrolled at the University of Alberta to upgrade her education. In the summer of 1968 we bought the Hughes residence in Falher and commuted from there for three years.

My teaching assignment was changed in June 1967. I was offered, and accepted, the vice-principalship of the Guy School, effective September 1, 1967. The high school had been moved to Donnelly, hence the change. The work load at the time was unbelievably varied. Apart from classroom instruction, I was vice-principal, with its concomitant responsibilities such as discipline, bus supervisor, ATA representative for the school, physical education teacher, etc. The principal in 1967 was Sister Germaine, followed later by Mr. A. Turcotte, Mrs. M. Gagnon, and Mr. H. Benoit, not necessarily in that order.

In June, 1970, a happy event occurred in our family—the arrival of our third son, Vinesh. Deedle took this in her stride and did remarkably well to miss only two weeks in June, and resumed school in September. We were fortunate in having Mrs. Germaine Pitre to take charge of baby Vinesh while we were teaching school.

By this time, we were looking to leave Guy to go to a larger centre, since our children were growing up, and would be going to University. Guy school population was also decreasing, and this made our decision to leave easier. Mr. Jepson, who had by now gone to the County of Mountview as Superintendent, had indicated that he would be interested in having us on his staff. Therefore, early in 1972, we applied for positions in his jurisdiction. We did not hear from him for several months, and assumed that no positions were available. However, to our evident delight, we received a telephone call on the last possible day, indicating that our applications had been successful.

While we were happy to leave, there was the genuine regret that we experienced at having to

leave so many of our friends. Also, by this time, some twenty South African teachers had received teaching positions in the Division. Many of our friends were present at a surprise party for us, and this only helped to accentuate the sense of regret at having to leave the area.

We have now taught in Cremona for the past fifteen years, but often think back to the good times we had and the many friends we left behind in the Guy area. We are very thankful for the many good things that occurred there to make our settling as new immigrants in Canada a far less painful experience than might otherwise have been.

NICHOL, JOSEPH ALFRED

par Gilberte Lemay

Alfred Nichol, voyageur et un grand et gros homme célibataire, prit le "homestead" S.W. 23-75-21. Après quelques années il a vendu son terrain à Jean Marie Johnson. Il est allé travailler à la construction de la route de l'Alaska pendant la 2ième guerre mondiale. Mais comme on dit: "Qui a bu de l'eau du pays, reviendra au pays". Alors il est revenu et a acheté la terre d'Edmond L'Abbé, le N.E. 26-76-21. Mais il n'est pas resté là longtemps; voyageur il l'était toujours. Cette terre-là aujourd'hui appartient à Louis Pelletier.

* * *

Mr. Alfred Nichol was a cheerful bachelor who came from Quebec and lived on N.E. 26-76-21.

During World War II, he spent his winters up north in the area of Whitehorse working for the U.S. Army on the Alaska Highway.

He died in Edmonton.



Joseph Nichol.

NOËL, GABRIEL & BISSON, EDWIDGE

par Edwidge Noël

Le premier Noël arrivé au Canada, François, fils de Pierre Noël et d'Elizabeth Augustin du Bourg de Chire-en-Montreuil, diocèse de Poitiers (Poitou), se maria à Québec le 22 octobre 1669 dont "Gabriel", 9e génération, est né le 29 novembre 1913 à St-Théophile (Racine) comté de Shefford, Québec. Sa mère, Régina Champigny, 8e génération (Des Landes dit Champigny) dont les origines sont de Champigny-sur-Marne (Ile de France). Il était le troisième d'une famille de seize enfants.



R.1 Gérard, Denis. R.2 Jacques, Gabriel, Edwidge, André.
R.3 Diane.

En 1934, Gabriel monta en Abitibi pour travailler à la journée et après deux ans put acheter une ferme avec l'aide d'un frère et la famille vint les rejoindre en 1936. Ils arrivèrent avec un troupeau laitier (enregistré) et ont organisé une laiterie pour fournir en lait, la ville de La Sarre. Pour aider la famille, les huit garçons allèrent au chantier et même devinrent propriétaires de "limites à bois". Ils ont même eu un champ de course pour chevaux trotteurs.

Mais Gabriel, voyageur, avait été souvent faire les récoltes à Willow-Bunch, Saskatchewan chez un oncle et parlait d'aller s'établir dans l'Ouest comme on disait dans le temps. Lors de son mariage le 2 juillet 1945 à Edwidge Bisson, Ste-Claire-de-Colombourg, il visita à Guy, ses beaux-parents puis revint en 1947, redescendit à La Sarre et revint définitivement en juillet 1949 avec trois enfants. Il acheta à Guy, au village, une parcelle de terrain, (20 acres) ancien magasin, le P.T.S.W. 1-76-21 et prit la W $\frac{1}{2}$ 26-75-20.

Les premiers acres de terre furent ouverts par

Georges Fortier de Nampa dès 1950 ensuite Gabriel échangea temps et machineries aratoires avec les Bisson ensuite avec Georges Cartier de Falher. Alors, dès les années 1950 et un peu avant les colons payaient pour faire ouvrir leurs terres. Le temps de la mitaine était dépassé. C'est pourquoi durant les années 50; il se fit tant de terre.



André & Jacques Noël.

Les enfants fréquentèrent l'Ecole Langlois, Ecole Routhier, Collège St-Jean et Université.

Pendant qu'il s'occupait de ses terres, sa femme devint gérante de la Caisse Populaire pendant plusieurs années. En 1974, il vendit ses terres à ses deux garçons Jacques et Gérard et se retira à Falher. Il continua à travailler pour un apiculteur de Guy (Gérard Paradis) et quand venait l'automne, il aidait ses garçons aux récoltes. Le couple eut six enfants.

Gabriel Noël: n. 29-11-1913

m. 02-07-1945

Edwidge Bisson: n. 02-04-1922

Enfants:

1) André: n. 05-04-1946

m. 29-12-1972

Patricia Bentley

André a son B.S.B.Sc.S agent communautaire (Indiens du Fédéral) Morinville. Ils ont deux enfants.

2) Jacques: n. 08-03-1947

m. 16-05-1970

d. 09-08-1984

Juliette Aubin:

Ils ont eu deux enfants. (voir Noël, Jacques)

3) Diane: n. 08-09-1948

Diane a son B.ED. et enseigne à l'école Française Maurice Lavallée.

4) Marie: n. 08-09-1950 d. 08-09-1950

5) Gérard: n. 21-12-1953

m. 02-07-1977

Laura Garand:

Il est un fermier à Guy et ils ont trois enfants.
(voir Noël, Gérard)

6) Denis: n. 24-01-1956

Denis a son B.A., LLB

* * *

In 1934, Gabriel went to Abitibi to work and after two years bought a farm with his brother's help. The family moved with them bringing a herd of registered cows. With that they could provide La Sarre with milk. To help the family the boys went to lumber camps, had their own timber limits and even had a racetrack for horses.

Gabriel had often come to Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan, to harvest at his uncle's. He talked of settling in the West. On the occasion of his marriage he visited his in-laws at Guy and came back in 1947. He returned to La Sarre and returned definitely in 1949.

The first acres were opened by Georges Fortier of Nampa in 1950 and then an exchange of labor against use of farm implements was done with the Bisson and then with Georges Cartier of Falher.

The children went to school at Langlois, Routhier, Collège St-Jean and University.

His wife was manager of the Caisse Populaire for many years.

In 1974 he sold his farm to his sons Jacques and Gérard and retired in Falher.

NOEL, GERARD & GARAND, LAURA

par Laura

L'avant dernier d'une famille de cinq enfants, fils de Gabriel Noël et Edwidge Bisson, Gérard naquit le 21 décembre 1953, à Guy, Alberta.

Gérard fréquenta l'école Langlois à Guy de la première à la huitième année. En neuvième année il séjourna au Collège Notre Dame de la Paix, ce qui lui permit de poursuivre ses études à l'école Routhier de Falher. Les années suivantes, grâce à un autobus scolaire privé, il compléta son secondaire à l'école Routhier tout en demeurant chez lui afin d'aider son père aux semences et aux récoltes.

Une fois diplômé et les battages achevés Gérard travailla pendant un an et demi comme surveillant de loisirs dans un pensionnat pour enfants à Hobbema. Ce fut pour lui une expérience inoubliable mais son coeur a su le ramener à son premier amour, la terre.

A partir de son enfance il passa de longues journées dans les champs avec son père. Telle-ment intéressé par tout ceci, à l'âge de cinq ans



R.1 Guylaine assise sur Laura. R.2 Gérard, Danica et Rémi Noël.

il s'esquivait en tracteur! Alors, on pourrait très facilement dire que Gérard a toujours eu la "piqûre" d'être fermier. C'est ainsi qu'en 1973 lui et son frère Jacques décidèrent de louer le terrain de leur père. En 1975, après deux ans de succès, les deux frères se joignirent avec zèle dans l'achat du terrain.

Le 2 juillet 1977 Gérard épousa Laura, fille d'Alphonse Garand et Jeanne Dupuis de Falher. Après un an à Falher ils décidèrent de faire leur chez-eux à Guy. Etant fille d'un fermier et petite-fille d'un pionnier, Laura partageait l'amour de Gérard pour la terre; ce qui les amena à se construire sur un de leurs quarts de terre (SE-5-76-20-W5).

Aujourd'hui leur foyer s'est enrichi de trois petits enfants.

En dépit du fait qu'il est seul à cultiver les terres, depuis la pénible mort accidentelle de son frère Jacques, en août 1984, Gérard continue toujours son effort pour la survie des fermes "Noël". Il possède maintenant six quarts et loue quatre quarts de Juliette Noël.

Gérard Noël: n. 21-12-1953 m. 02-07-1977

Laura Garand: n. 07-11-1957

ENFANTS:

1- Rémi: n. 20-10-1980

2- Danica: n. 01-05-1982

3- Guylaine: n. 21-11-1984

* * *

Gérard attended Langlois school at Guy from grades one to eight. He went to Collège Notre Dame de la Paix for grade nine to attend Routhier school in Falher. The following years, thanks to a private school bus, he completed his high school at Routhier while helping at home with seeding and harvesting.

After graduation and harvest, Gérard worked for a year and a half as recreational supervisor in a boarding school for children at Hobbema. It was an unforgettable experience but his heart brought him back to his first love, the soil.

Since his childhood he would spend many hours in the fields with his father. So taken up with all this, at the age of five he ran away with a tractor! In 1973 he and his brother Jacques decided to rent their father's land.

In 1975 after a two year success they decided to buy the land. In 1977, Gérard married Laura Garand. After staying a year in Falher they decided that Guy would be their home. They built a house on one of their quarters.

Today their home is enriched by three little children.

Despite his being alone to farm since the tragic death of Jacques, Gérard continues to strive for the survival of the Noël farms.

He now owns six quarters and rents four quarters from Juliette Noël.

NOEL, JACQUES & AUBIN, JULIETTE

par Juliette Noël

Jacques est né le 8 mars 1947, deuxième fils de Gabriel et Edwidge Noël à La Sarre, Abitibi, Québec. A l'âge de deux ans ses parents décident de prendre du terrain dans l'Ouest, alors c'est le déménagement à Guy. Jacques fréquente l'école de Guy jusqu'en huitième année. Pour la huitième et neuvième année il va au Collège St-Jean d'Edmonton. Il aime bien le Collège à cause des sports et c'est surtout là que Jacques développe son talent pour le hockey. De retour à Guy pour les mois d'été Jacques subit un grave accident d'auto et il a été hospitalisé pendant deux mois. Ensuite il retourne en classe pour quelques mois, mais décide de se trouver du travail. Son premier emploi fut pour le "seismic"; ce qu'il fit pour les prochains hivers. A l'âge de seize ans il achète son premier quart de terre de son père et pendant sept ans Jacques cultive ce terrain tout en aidant son père et travaille ailleurs les mois d'hiver. A l'âge de vingt-trois ans Jacques épouse Juliette Aubin.

Je suis née jumelle de Jules, le 10 mars 1950, à McLennan, Alberta. Je suis le quatrième enfant de Benoît et Cécile Aubin. J'ai fréquenté l'école de Guy jusqu'à ma dixième année, et ensuite



Jacques s'amuse avec les enfants Ginette et Bobby sur leur patinoire près de la maison.

l'école de Donnelly afin de suivre le cours commercial tout en finissant mon secondaire. Mon premier emploi fut à la Banque de Montréal de Bonnie Doon à Edmonton. J'aime beaucoup mon travail, aussi la ville, mais je me suis sentie plus craintive quand un vol à main armée a eu lieu dans la banque. J'ai travaillé deux ans et j'ai laissé mon travail pour me marier le 16 mai 1970.

Pendant les deux premières années de notre vie ensemble, nous avons demeuré à Edmonton où j'avais un emploi au "National Trust" et Jacques travaillait à la construction de chemin à Fort McLeod, Alberta. Etant nouvellement mariée j'ai trouvé ça bien difficile d'être seule car Jacques ne revenait que les fins de semaines. Pendant ces deux années, nous passions nos vacances à la culture de notre quart de terre. En 1973, Jacques décide qu'il aimerait avoir plus de terrain et veut devenir fermier à plein temps. Alors avec son frère Gérard, ils forment une association et louent les huit quarts de terre de leur père en essai pour deux ans. C'est à ce moment que nous sommes déménagés dans la maison de M. et Mme Noël à Guy et Gérard demeure avec nous pendant trois ans. Le 8 mai de cette même année est née notre petite fille Ginette. Aimant beaucoup la terre Jacques et Gérard décident d'acheter les huit quarts de terre de leur père ainsi que deux autres quarts de Charles et Marie Gagnon. Alors Jacques et Gérard sont de vrais fermiers car ils cultivent un total de onze quarts de terre. En 1975 notre adorable petit garçon Bobby, est né.

L'automne 1976, en fut un que nous n'oublierons jamais. Ce fut un automne très pluvieux et le terrain ne pouvait supporter les machines agricoles. L'andaineuse (swather) et moissonneuse-batteuse défonçaient dans le

gumbo alors Jacques et Gérard se servent de leur génie créateur et patentent des "Paddle Wheels" qu'ils posent sur les machines. A leur surprise ça va très bien et ils ont pu sauver toute leur récolte.

Ayant toujours besoin d'argent sur une ferme Jacques va travailler pendant les mois d'hiver sur un concasseur de roche. Il devient contremaître pendant six hivers. Malgré son travail, Jacques trouve le temps d'être entraîneur d'une équipe de hockey, directeur de la Caisse Francalita et du Comité de Sport de Guy et fit partie du comité paroissial.

Durant ces années, je me tiens occupée avec nos deux enfants, avec le travail de secrétaire à l'école G.P. Vanier de Donnelly, en plus de la besogne de la maison. Un surcroît de travail est occasionné aux récoltes car je dois apporter le repas chaud dans les champs où les hommes travaillent. Malgré notre vie mouvementée ce fut de très bonnes années.

L'année 1984 a très bien commencé car nous avons fait deux agréables voyages. Au début de mars nous sommes allés à la rencontre de mes parents Benoit et Cécile Aubin en Arizona et

nous sommes revenus en voiture de camping avec eux. Au mois de juillet nous sommes allés au Québec visiter la parenté Noël et Bisson avec M. et Mme Noël. C'était la première fois que Jacques retournait dans son village natal. Nous avons tous les deux bien joui du paysage pittoresque du Québec et du chaleureux accueil reçu. Nous étions heureux de revenir à temps pour le 40ième anniversaire de mariage de mes parents sans se douter du malheur qui nous frapperait cinq jours plus tard. Jacques eut un accident fatal avec son camion de ferme, me laissant seule avec nos deux enfants.

Malgré le vide pénible la vie continue. J'ai toujours mon emploi à l'école G.P. Vanier et mes deux enfants me sont une grande consolation.

Jacques Noël: n. 08-03-1947 m. 16-05-1970 d. 09-08-1984

Juliette Aubin: n. 10-03-1950 ENFANTS:

1- Ginette: n. 08-05-1973

2- Robert: n. 05-03-1975

* * *



Bobby, 2 ans, Juliette, Ginette 4 ans, Jacques.

When Jacques was two his parents moved to Guy. Jacques attended Guy school up to grade eight. He then attended College St-Jean in Edmonton for grades eight and nine. Back home for the summer he is involved in a car accident and is hospitalized for two months. At sixteen he buys his first quarter from his father and during seven years he farms it while helping his father but works out in winters. At the age of twenty three he marries Juliette Aubin.

I was born a twin to Jules. I attended Guy school up to grade ten and G.P. Vanier for High School. I followed commercial courses. My first job was at the Bank of Montreal in Bonnie Doon, Edmonton. I worked there two years and came back to Guy for my wedding.

During the two first years of marriage, we stayed in Edmonton where I worked for the National Trust Bank and Jacques worked at road construction in Fort McLeod, Alberta. During our holidays we would come to Guy and work on our quarter of land.

In 1973 Jacques decided he wanted more land to be a full-time farmer. So with Gérard, his brother, they formed an association and rented the eight quarters of land from their dad for a two-year trial. Liking the land, Jacques and Gérard decided to buy the eight quarters from their father and two more from Charles and Marie Gagnon. Now they are full-fledged farmers.

Autumn of 1976 was a year to remember. It

rained so much the soil would not carry the machinery. The swather and combine would break through the gumbo so Jacques and Gérard invented "Paddle Wheels" that they put on their machinery. To their own surprise these wheels served the purpose and they were able to save all the crop.

Always in need of cash on a farm Jacques went to work in winter on a rock-crusher. He is very efficient and becomes foreman for six winters. Apart from his work, Jacques finds time to be hockey coach, director of Caisse Francalta and of the Guy Sports Committee and member of the Parish Council.

During these years I'm busy with my two children, with my secretarial work at G.P. Vanier school and with housework. A greater work load occurs at harvest time when I must bring a hot meal in the fields. Despite our active life these were happy years.

The year 1984 began very well as we took two beautiful trips. At the beginning of March we went to meet my parents in Arizona and came back with them in their R.V. In July we went to Quebec to visit the Noël and Bisson relatives with Mr. and Mrs. Noël. We both enjoyed picturesque Quebec and the welcome that was given us. We were happy to come back for the 40th anniversary of my parents unknowing of the tragedy that was to strike five days later. Jacques had a fatal accident caused by his farm truck, leaving me alone with our two children.

Despite the great loss life goes on. I still work at G.P. Vanier School and my two children are a great consolation.

OGRODNICZUK, FRANK & ANUSZEWSKI, ANNE

by Mildred Anuszewski

Frank and Anna arrived in Canada in the fall of 1961, sponsored by Frank and Josefa Krzeminski. Due to ill health Frank rented the farm to the Ogrodniczuk family. Stanley and Anne attended school in Guy for a few years in the early sixties. A talent show was put on by the school at that time and Anne performed in the Polish language complete with Polish costume. Supported by the Polish population of the area Anne won the first place honor.

Frank and Anne Ogrodniczuk moved to Peace River in 1963 and are presently retired there.

CHILDREN:

1. Stanley; n.21-04-1948 m.04-07-1970
Marion Dion; They live in Killam, AB where Stanley manages a store. Three children: John, Ryan and Herry Ann.



Anna, Anne, Frank and son Stanley in back.

2. Anne; n.21-04-1951 m.03-07-1971

Wendell Smith; They live in Grande Prairie where Anne is employed as a lab technician at the Grande Prairie Hospital.

* * *

Frank et Anna et leurs enfants sont venus au Canada en 1961 parrainés par Josefa et Frank Krzeminski. Comme Frank était de santé fébrile il dut louer sa ferme pendant quelques années. Leurs enfants, Stanley et Anne sont allés à l'école de Guy au début des années soixante. La petite Anne donna une présentation en polonais avec costume du pays à une soirée d'amateurs. Appuyée par la population polonaise, elle remporta le premier prix.

OLSHANOWSKI, STANLEY & SZOLKOWSKI, ANTONINA

by Robert Olshanowski

Stanley Olshanowski was born in 1899 in what was then Austria-Hungary. In 1927, after having lived in Canada for about five years, he invited Antonina Szolkowski from the same village of Halicz to be his bride.

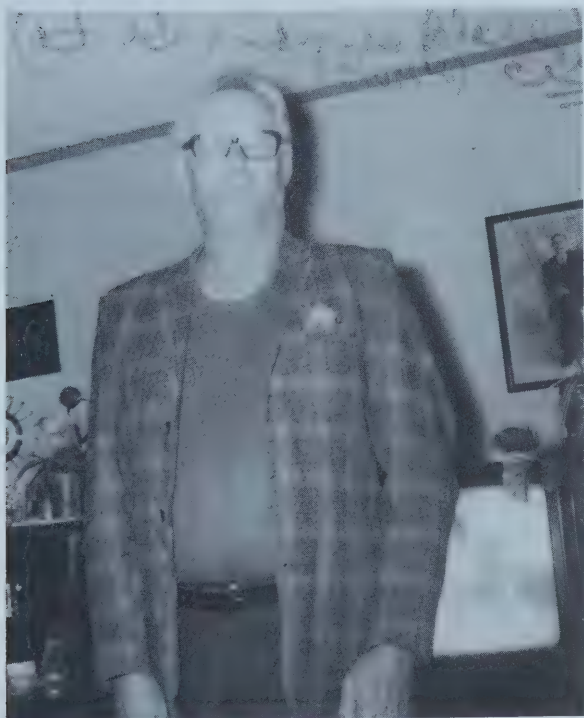
Together they farmed a poor half section of land at Guy until his death from cancer in 1964. His wife moved to her present abode, the house built earlier by Stanley in Edmonton. She is still in good health and nearly eighty.

They had three children: Robert who became a school-teacher (Chipman), Irene who married Albert Cloutier (Whitemud Creek), and Rita who married a city realtor named Harmon Kelly. She died in 1978 leaving five children. He died a few days later!

Living conditions on the farm in Guy were harsh. Wood heaters, coal-oil lamps and snow for water. However, the most difficult problem



Antonia & Stanley Olshanowski.



Robert Olshanowski.

was to brush enough land by hand to be able to eke out an existence.

Stanley was an extremely capable carpenter and there are still several homes in the area that he built or helped to remodel. On the last visit (1980) we noticed that the old log house built in 1930 is still standing on our former farmstead, (John Zesko).

We all think often about our early years at Guy and are happy to have been a part of what is today a vigorous and productive farming community.

Article submitted by the oldest child Robert Olshanowski (58) of Chipman, Alberta where he has retired from teaching and is now farming a quarter section of land.

* * *

Stanley est né en Autriche-Hongrie en 1899. Il est arrivé au Canada en 1922 et cinq ans plus tard il demanda à Antonina aussi, de son village, Halicz, de venir l'épouser.

Il bâtit sa maison en bois rond en 1930 et elle est encore sur la terre qui appartient maintenant à John Zesko. La plus grande difficulté était d'ouvrir assez de terrain à la main sur une demie-section pour faire sa vie. Stanley étant habile menuisier bâtit plusieurs maisons pour d'autre familles de la région. Il bâtit aussi une maison à Edmonton où Antonina demeure depuis la mort de Stanley en 1964. Ils ont eu trois enfants, Robert, Irene, Rita.

OULETTE, ERNEST

par Gilberte Lemay

Jeune homme, connu sous le nom de "p'tit Ouelette", venant des provinces de l'Est du Canada. Son désir était de voir l'Ouest Canadien.

Il travailla à salaire, ici et là et après le départ de Roland Dubois, il le remplaça comme chauffeur pour l'Abbé Mallet et il demeura au presbytère avec l'Abbé.

Il était toujours d'humeur jovial et se fit beaucoup d'amis à Guy. Il ne parlait que le français et chantait très bien. Il lui arrivait quelques fois dans ses rêves la nuit de chanter en anglais, "You Are My Sunshine".

Il repartit plus tard continuer ses voyages.

* * *

A young man who came from the eastern provinces of Canada. His wish was to see western Canada.

He worked here and there and after Roland Dubois left he replaced him as chauffeur for Rev. Mallet and stayed at the rectory with the Reverend.

He was of jovial humor and made many friends in Guy. He spoke French only and sang very well. It would occur that he would sing "You Are My Sunshine" in his dreams. He left later on to pursue his travels.

PARADIS, GERARD & DOUCETTE, YVONNE

par Gérard Paradis

Gérard Paradis, fils d'Ulric et Marie Anne Fontaine est né à St-Hugues, Cté de Bagot, P.Q.

Il arriva à Falher au mois de mars, 1955 pour travailler pour son frère Léo et pour voir quel avenir la région réservait à l'apiculture.

Ce n'est qu'au printemps 1956, avec ses parents Ulric et Marie Anne Paradis qu'il déménage ses 100 ruches à Guy. Il loua une vieille maison de Gabriel Noël; elle servit de résidence ainsi que d'entrepôt à miel.

En 1957 il achète une petite maison et l'installe à Guy sur le même terrain qu'elle est située aujourd'hui. Pendant trois années consécutives son entrepôt à miel est dans le garage de M. le curé. Pour l'été 1960 il se sert de graineries chez M. Albert Tokarz. En 1961 il achète de la paroisse de Girouxville les "barracks", casernes militaires qui avaient servies de résidence aux forces américaines durant la construction de l'Alaska Highway et à la suite comme dortoir pour les pensionnaires du convent de Girouxville. Il les fait déménager à Guy près de sa petite maison.



Gérard Paradis.

Gérard rêvait toujours d'agrandir ses entrepôts et ce n'est qu'en 1975 que la première partie fut construite. En 1980 la deuxième partie, celle pour extraire le miel fut complétée. Ce même bâtiment sert aussi à l'hivernement des ruches.

Depuis 1958 Gérard et sa famille demeurent à Falher mais il garde toujours sa petite maison blanche où il séjourne l'été.

Gérard Paradis; n.29-09-1934 m.20-10-1956 Dolores Tremblay; n.24-05-1929 d.29-08-1964

ENFANTS:

1. Line; n.23-08-1957

2. Paul; n.19-09-1959

3. Ann; n.02-10-1961

2.m. Yvonne Doucette; n.29-10-1945

4. Marc; n.21-04-1976

5. Lise; n.30-08-1978

* * *

Gérard, son of Ulric Paradis and Marie Anne Fontaine, was born at St. Hugues, county of Bagot, P.Q.

He came to Falher in March 1955 to work for his brother, Léo, and to see if there was a future for the apiculture industry in the region.

In the spring of 1956, he moved his hundred beehives to Guy. He rented from Gabriel Noel an old house to be used as residence and also as warehouse for the storage of honey. In 1957 he bought a little house and installed it on the land where it still stands today. In 1961 he bought from Girouxville the barracks that had been used as dormitories for the students of Girouxville and moved them to Guy near his little house. Gérard always dreamed of increasing his warehouse storage space, which he did in 1975. In 1980 he completed the second part for the extraction of the honey. This same building is also used for the housing of the hives in the winter.

Since 1958, Gérard and his family live in Falher but keep the little white house where he sometimes stays during the summer.

PARADIS, LUCIEN & GAUDREAU, LEA

par Gilberte Lemay

Lucien Paradis né à St-Hugues, P.Q., est le frère de Gérard Paradis, apiculteur à Guy. Il est marié à Léa Gaudreau, née à St-Armand, P.Q. C'est à Cowansville, P.Q. qu'ils unirent leurs destinées le 30 octobre 1945.

De cette union sont nés quatre enfants: Gaétan d'Edmonton, Suzanne d'Edmonton, Jeanette de Spruce Lake, Saskatchewan et Réal de Valleyview.

Le 31 mars 1948 la famille est venue dans l'Ouest. Ils s'installèrent à Girouxville, Alberta où Lucien travaillait à son métier d'apiculteur.

A l'automne 1948 ils retournèrent dans l'Est mais avec l'intention de revenir car ils avaient aimé l'Ouest Canadien.

C'est en 1954 qu'ils revinrent. Comme il était un apiculteur connaissant et habile Lucien fut engagé comme gérant d'une industrie d'abeilles à Spirit River, Alberta.

Malgré sa santé souvent ébranlée par la maladie ils demeurèrent à Spirit River jusqu'en 1976, car Léa travaillait dans un magasin. C'est



Léa & Lucien Paradis.

par son frère Gérard qu'ils apprirent que le magasin de Guy était à vendre; ce qui les intéressa beaucoup. Et le 6 mai 1976, ils achetèrent le magasin de Paul Drouin. Ils furent très bien accueillis par la population de Guy, et surent gagner l'amitié de tous. Dans le magasin ils firent quelques rénovations et y installèrent une table à café, où tous et chacun pouvait s'asseoir et jaser tout en prenant une bonne tasse de café chaud.

Pour leur demeure ils achetèrent une maison préfabriquée et la firent installer tout près du magasin du côté est.

Ils ont toujours participé aux organisations paroissiales, bazar, parties de cartes, etc...

Au cours des années, voyant sa santé décliner Lucien trouvait que la tâche était trop lourde pour son épouse, qui a dû elle aussi avoir recours à des soins médicaux; alors ensemble ils ont décidé de vendre leur propriété ici et d'aller demeurer à Edmonton.

C'est le 1 septembre 1983 qu'ils vendirent leur magasin et résidence à John et Gemma Tokarz.

Les gens de Guy ont voulu manifester leurs amitiés et leur reconnaissance à M. et Mme

Paradis en leur organisant une soirée d'adieu. Le 18 septembre, 170 paroissiens et amis se réunirent à la salle pour leur offrir des vœux et une horloge souvenir, et inviter Léa et Lucien à revenir à Guy aussi souvent qu'ils le désireraient. Une petite fille fut choisie pour aller leur présenter, au nom de tous, un joli bouquet de fleurs, don de Marie Jeanne Tokarz. Comme Lucien et Léa faisaient parti d'un groupe de joueurs de cartes, le groupe s'est réuni le 19 septembre à la demeure de M. et Mme Raoul Lambert et leur présentèrent une lampe souvenir sur laquelle ils firent inscrire les noms de tous les joueurs de cartes.

Lucien Paradis: n. 27-06-1925 m. 30-10-1945

Léa Gaudreau: n. 19-04-1928

ENFANTS:

1- Gaétan: n. 08-09-1946 m. 20-10-1972

Lynn Parson. Ils ont deux enfants: Robert et Jennifer.

2- Suzanne: n. 06-09-1947 m. 12-10-1968

Orest Bucharski. Ils ont deux enfants: Michelle et Cheryl.

3- Réal: n. 02-12-1948 m. 30-05-1969

Anita Durham. Ils ont quatre enfants: Tammy, Claudine, Debbie et Julie.

4- Jeannette: n. 27-08-1950 m. 24-10-1971

Dave Dolittle. Ils ont trois enfants: Marcel, Carol et Nabelle.

* * *

Lucien Paradis is a brother to Gérard, beekeeper in Guy. He is married to Léa Gaudreau. They have four children: Gaétan and Suzanne from Edmonton, Jeannette of Spruce Lake, Saskatchewan and Réal from Valleyview, Alberta.

On March 31, 1948 the family came out West. They settled in Girouxville where Lucien worked as a beekeeper. That autumn they returned to Quebec with the intention of coming back because they loved western Canada.

They came back in 1954. As he was an experienced beekeeper he was hired as manager of a bee industry in Spirit River, Alberta. Even if his health was precarious, they stayed in Spirit River until 1976 because Léa worked in a store. Through his brother Gérard he learned that the Guy store was for sale; this was of great interest to them and May 6, 1976 they bought Paul Drouin's store.

They were made welcome by the population and gained everyone's friendship. They made renovations at the store and introduced a coffee table where everyone could sit and chat while having hot coffee. For a residence they bought a twin-wide trailer and had it set up near the store

on the east side. They always took part in parish organizations.

As the years went, their health declined so they decided to sell and go to live in Edmonton. On September 1, 1983 they sold their store and residence to John and Gemma Tokarz.

PAYNE, WILLIAM CHARLES & CLUTTON, JUDITH ANN

by Bill Payne

I was born and raised on a farm in Castor, Alberta. My parents are Florence Elizabeth Fuller and Nelson Howard Payne.

Castor, in the 1960's, wasn't a very good place for a teenager to find a good job. I looked around for better opportunities. I spent the next few years travelling and working at different places. I apprenticed in the carpentry trade in Australia.

In March of 1966, after working in Southern Ontario for about eight months, I decided to head back west. I visited my brother, Ken, in Toronto. He showed me a letter he had received from the Department of Lands and Forests in Edmonton. It stated that due to the wet seasons, they were granting him a time extension on a half section of land he'd filed on in 1962. He was surprised to learn that it had not been cancelled. Ken told me to have a look at it.

When I got here in Alberta, it was still very much winter. Since construction was very slow I went to have a look at the land. I looked at the map at the M.D. No. 130 office and discovered that there was no road to it from highway #34. But from the High Prairie highway I noticed a road going south right to the Little Smoky River. I followed it and ended up in George Bastien's yard. Marcel gladly offered to show me around. We crossed on the ice, up the bank and there it was.

The land was mostly low willow land and being completely inexperienced, I thought it was a great opportunity. I went back near Edmonton and went to work for Gwynne Transport, hauling livestock. I kept in touch by phone and when a clearing contractor, Al Gredys, was in the area I had him cut and pile a hundred acres. After failing to find anyone to break it I bought a John Deere Model D and a breaking plow and built a 8 x 12 granary to stay in. Since it was October and too cold for breaking I returned to work.

In the middle of June 1967 I came up to do my breaking. I didn't have a hydraulic lift on the plow so I got lots of exercise. I had no trouble to keep going because if I stopped I'd be eaten alive by mosquitoes. I usually met George Langlais sometime after 10 p.m. when we made our sup-

pers. It would have been a lonely summer if it hadn't been for his company.

I filed on the E $\frac{1}{2}$ -24-74-21-W5 next to my original half, S $\frac{1}{2}$ -19-74-20-W5. I moved a shack in and got Jean Fortier to clear another fifty acres and dig a dugout.

In June of 1971, I was married to Judy Clutton from south Sunset House. She had moved there with her parents Clifford and Phyllis Clutton in 1965 from Breton, Alberta. We lived in Valleyview and came out to the farm on weekends and holidays.

In 1973, we bought from Charlie Jones of High Prairie, a half section close to the highway. We moved out that spring. In November, 1978 we moved into our new house where we now live. Throughout the 1970's I worked in construction from Edson to Fort McMurray. I also put in about four and a half years in construction for the Provincial Parks Northern Region in Valleyview. When I was out working Judy was kept busy with the family as well as looking after the cattle. Farming got a bit hectic at times, especially during calving time and harvest. But looking back it was also some of our most rewarding times.

During the past three years I've been representing this region with Uniform which I have found very interesting.

William Charles Payne: n.26-01-1945 m.06-1971
Judith Ann Clutton: n.18-11-1953

CHILDREN:

1. Jeanine: n.28-09-1972
2. Lesley: n.08-04-1976
3. David: n.05-03-1986

* * *

Je suis né et j'ai été élevé sur une ferme à Castor, Alberta. Dans les années 1960, il n'y avait pas beaucoup d'ouverture pour du travail alors j'ai voyagé un peu. J'ai fais mon apprentissage comme menuisier en Australie.

En mars 1966, ayant travaillé huit mois au sud de l'Ontario, je décidai de retourner à l'Ouest. Je visitai mon frère, Ken, à Toronto. Il me montra une lettre du Ministère des Terres et Forêts à Edmonton qui lui donnait un sursis sur une demi-section qu'il avait pris en 1962. Il me demanda d'aller la voir.

J'allai la visiter avec Marcel Bastien, traversant sur la glace de la rivière. Etant inexpérimenté je crus voir une bonne affaire. Je pris un autre "homestead" près du premier. J'y déménageai un "shack" et engageai Jean Fortier pour ouvrir cinquante acres et creuser un étang.

En juin 1971, j'épousai Judy Clutton de

Sunset House. Nous demeurions à Valleyview et vivions sur la ferme les fins de semaine et congés.

En 1973, nous achetions de Charlie Jones de High Prairie une demi-section plus près du grand chemin. En novembre 1978, nous déménâmes dans notre nouvelle maison où nous demeurons maintenant. Durant les années 1970 je travaillai à la construction, d'Edson à Fort McMurray. Quand je travaillais à l'extérieur, Judy était occupé avec la famille et le soin des bêtes à cornes.

Depuis trois ans j'ai été impliqué avec Uniform, représentant cette région.

PELLETIER, LAURENT & 1M. BOUCHARD, BERTHA 2M. (PERREAULT) SERVANT EVA

par Laurent

Laurent demeure à Guy sur le terrain NE-8-76-20 avec sa deuxième épouse, Eva Servant Perreault. Il arriva avec ses parents et sa famille à l'automne 1941. Il fréquenta l'école Benoit jusqu'à l'âge de quatorze ans. Il a travaillé pour plusieurs fermiers sur les "runs de battages", et aussi au chantier l'hiver. Il repartit pour l'est en 1953 où il demeura pendant douze ans. Il se maria avec Bertha Bouchard. De ce mariage naquirent cinq enfants, dont quatre vinrent dans l'ouest avec la famille en 1965.

Présentement, il est déménageur de bâtisses (L & M Building & Movers).

Laurent Pelletier; n.24-12-1931 m.08-09-1955

Bertha Bouchard; n.26-02-1936

ENFANTS:

1. Alain; n.06-12-1956 m.25-09-1976

Linda Lewis;

a) Rachelle; n.28-01-1977

b) Jason; n.21-01-1978

c) Shawn; n.25-12-1979

d) Amanda; n.24-01-1981

2. Daniel; n.05-1958 m.03-07-1976

Diane Gagnon;

a) Joanne; n.10-03-1977

b) Robert; n.26-10-1979

2.m. Diane Lauze;

3. Michel; n.16-04-1959 m.26-07-1980

Janet Bruce;

a) Mark; n.03-05-1979

b) Eileen; n.14-02-1983

4. Carmen; n.20-08-1961

a) Irene; n.10-2-1978

5. Raymond; n.03-05-1968

2.m. Eva Servant Perrault; n.24-05-1937 m.30-06-1983

* * *

Laurent lives in Guy on the land NE-8-76-20-W5 with his second wife, Eva Servant Perreault.

He had come West with his parents and family in the fall of 1941 and had attended Benoit School until the age of fourteen. Then he worked for many years to do the harvesting and at lumber camps during the winters. He returned East in 1953 and lived there for twelve years. He married Bertha Bouchard and they had five children, four of them were born in the East and one in Alberta.

Laurent moved back west with his family in 1965. Presently he is a mover of buildings (L & M Building & Mover)

In a second marriage on 30-06-1983, Laurent wedded Eva Servant Perreault.

PELLETIER, LEON & ST-PIERRE, LEDA

par la famille

Léon Pelletier, fils de Henri et Clara Pelletier (tous deux des Pelletier) naquit à Trois Pistoles, PQ le 7 septembre 1897. Il épousa Léda St-Pierre, fille de Paul et Anna Malenfant, le 17 novembre 1927 à St-Clément. Il prit possession de la ferme paternelle, qui était de deux quarts, et gardait des animaux pour survivre.

L'avenir n'étant pas trop prometteur au Québec, la famille Pelletier comprenant déjà onze enfants, dont huit garçons, décida en 1941, avec l'assistance de l'abbé St-Pierre, colonisateur, de venir s'établir dans l'ouest canadien. Le départ fut très pénible, car ils devaient laisser les parents, les amis.

Ils partirent en train à l'automne 1941 et arrivèrent à Donnelly où ils furent accueillis par des familles généreuses, (Hervé Johnson et Eugène Lemay). Par la suite Léon fut à l'emploi d'Aurèle Benoit. Cette même année il acheta la terre de Maurice Beauchamp, le SW 25-76-21-W5, et se construisit une maison. Quatre autres enfants s'ajoutèrent à la famille. Papa travail-



R.1 Léda. R.2 Lucette, Lucienne, Laurianne, Lucille, Lillian. R.3 Léopold, Lucien, Laurent, Lois, Léonard, Lauréat, Lévis, Laurier, Léonce.

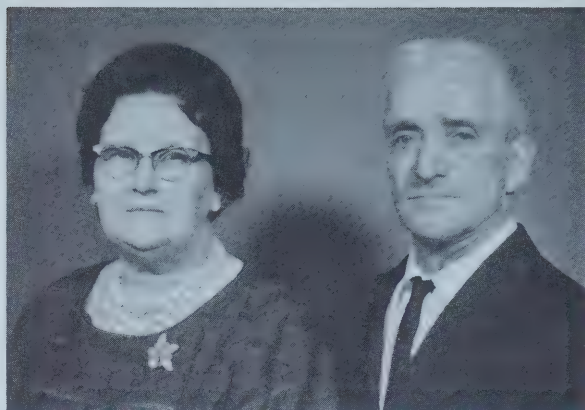
lait au chantier, l'hiver, pour Honoré Maison-neuve. Il paraît que c'était un excellent bûcheur. L'été il faisait les semences de deux quarts de section et l'automne il travaillait aux battages. Tout cela pour gagner la nourriture de la famille. Il creusa aussi à la main un puits d'eau de 60 pieds. Maman pour sa part était très ingénieuse. Elle s'arrangeait avec ce qu'elle avait. Nous avions toujours trois repas; l'été on faisait la cueillette des fruits et le jardin se ramassait pour des conserves. Elle fabriquait aussi tous nos vêtements. Elle se dépensa sans compter ses peines. Malgré les peines et le labeur parfois pénibles, ils persistèrent. La famille élevée, ils déménagèrent à Falher jusqu'à la mort de Papa le 02-12-1978. Maman demeure présentement avec son fils Louis, célibataire, à Guy sur une ferme, où il s'est bâti une maison en 1980. Maman toujours en bonne santé s'occupe avec du tricot, crochetage, etc.

Nous avons toujours été une famille unie. Les amusements nous nous les procurions nous-mêmes (la musique et le chant, les parties de balles etc.). Notre demeure tout en étant petite fut souvent le lieu de rencontres des jeunes. Nous avons appris dès notre jeune âge nos reponsabilités; les travaux devaient se faire en famille.

Nous étions très pauvres, mais nos parents ont réussi à venir en aide à une famille voisine. Les enfants étaient orphelins de mère. Maman étant orpheline elle même à l'âge de quatorze ans avec huit frères et soeurs plus jeunes, comprenait leur situation. Nous avons établi une amitié profonde avec eux et nous les considérons comme nos frères et soeurs. Nous retenons de beaux souvenirs du temps passé ensemble.

Il nous vient à l'idée des souvenirs inoubliables: l'ancienne tradition de célébrer les fêtes, d'abord le voyage en "sleigh ou caboose" à la messe de minuit, la journée de Noël où papa souvent chantait et giguait sur l'air du petit Bonhomme. Maman qui nous faisait du spécial: les bons croquignoles (beignes), le six pâtes. Même si on n'avait pas de cadeaux, une pomme ou une orange avec 3 ou 4 bonbons nous rendait fous de joie. Lucette nous parle de mode:

Même si la télévision n'existait pas pour nous mettre au courant des modes, on savait quand même que parfois ce qu'on portait n'était pas toujours correct. Je me souviens lorsque nous recevions des boîtes de linge de nos parents de l'est et des Etats Unis. Tout était utilisé, même s'il s'agissait de souliers pour dames. Maman coupait les talons et on bourrait le bout du soulier avec ce qu'on pouvait trouver. Ce que maman ne savait pas c'est que les



Léda & Léon Pelletier, 38 ans de mariage.

souliers restaient souvent le long du chemin en allant à la classe. Aujourd'hui on ne peut s'empêcher de rire de tous ces moments d'ennuis, je pourrais même ajouter que cela a enrichi nos vies.

Les garçons Pelletier ont gagné une réputation sur les ponts et bâtiments; ils sont débrouillards et possèdent un sens de l'équilibre assez extraordinaire. De cette union naquirent 17 enfants: Tous leurs noms commencent par la lettre "L".

Léon Pelletier: n.07-09-1897 m.17-11-1927 d.02-12-1978

Léda St-Pierre: n.08-11-1904

ENFANTS:

1. Léopold: n.09-11-1928 1m.02-04-1951
Julia Pard: d.1977

a) Yvonne: n.05-1952 m.06-05-1972
Brocket Lambert Fox. Ils ont trois enfants.

2m Béatrice Tatsbama

Ils ont deux enfants: Jolene et Harlan. Léopold demeure à Moses Lake, Washington.

2. Lucien: n.20-05-1930 m.14-02-1958
Ida Plante. Ils ont huit enfants: Danny, John, Maryanne, Don, Tommy, Marlene, Larry et Ron.

3. Laurent: n.24-12-1931 1m08-09-1955
Bertha Bouchard (voir Pelletier, Laurent)

4 & 5. Jumelles: Lucille et Lucienne:
n.01-1933 d.03-1933

6. Lucette: n.17-04-1934 m.02-06-1954
Roger Maisonneuve

a) Louise m.
Claude Forget
Un enfant Jonathan

b) Robert n.07-04-1957 m.11-11-1978
Rose Seely
Trois enfants: Ariane, Matthieu, Janelle.
Ils demeurent à Guy.

- c) *Doris m. Gerald Humeny*
deux enfants
- d) *Charles*
- e) *Elaine*
- 7. *Louis: n.08-07-1935*
- 8. *Lucienne: n.08-09-1936 m.08-09-1953*
Joseph Bouchard (voir Bouchard, Joseph)
- 9. *Léonard: n.18-12-1937*
- 10. *Lauriat: n.26-03-1939 m.24-10-1964*
Georgette Henley. Ils ont deux enfants:
Dwayne et Cindy.
- 11. *Laurianne: n.26-03-1939 m.30-01-1965*
Adrien Ferland. Ils ont trois enfants:
Dianne, Gilles et Jocelyne.
- 12. *Lévis: n.21-03-1941 m.19-05-1967*
Irène Dumas Hammer. Ils ont quatre
enfants: Michael, Christine, David et
Joanne.
- 13. *Laurier: n.21-03-1941 m.07-10-1972*
Jane Peterson. ils ont trois enfants: Jolene,
Steven et Lealle.
- 14. *Léonce: n.02-03-1943 m.04-07-1969*
Rose Marier. Ils ont deux enfants: Nicole et
Marc.
- 15. *Lucille: n.26-06-1945 m.08-07-1972*
Roger Moore: n.27-04-1943. (voir Moore,
Roger)
- 16. *Lilliane: n.26-06-1945 m.02-07-1966*
Fernand Chailler. Ils ont deux enfants:
David et Anne.
- 17. *Léandre: n.26-06-1945 d.07-1945*

* * *

Our father, Léon, was born at Trois Pistoles, P.Q. in 1897. He married Léda St. Pierre at St. Clément P. Q. in 1927. After their marriage they took possession of the family farm which consisted of two quarters and some livestock.

By 1941 their family had grown to eleven children and their future in Québec did not look too promising. This situation prompted them to head out west to settle in the Guy area.

In the fall of 1941 they left Québec by train, arriving in Donnelly to be welcomed by generous families such as Hervé Johnson's and Eugène Lemay's. Later, Dad worked for Aurèle Benoit and then bought land from Maurice Beauchamp where he built a house. In winter, he worked in lumber camps, in summer he seeded his land and in the fall he worked at harvesting operations. All this he did in order to feed his family.

In order to make the farm a home, both he and mother worked hard! He even dug a 60 feet deep well by hand. As for our mother, she was an ingenious homemaker who "made do" with what resources were available. She always

managed to provide three meals a day for us. In the summertime we picked berries and had a big garden; the fruits of both were canned for the coming winter. Mother sewed all our clothes and she gave of herself, all the while counting her blessings. Despite the hard work and the hard times, our parents persisted!

Our family has always been a united one and while growing up we made our own fun. We enjoyed playing music, singing and participating in baseball games. Though our house was rather small, it was often the meeting place of the youthful population in the area. We learned responsibility at an early age, knowing that these responsibilities had to be shouldered by everyone in the family.

Though we were poor, our parents helped a neighboring family who had lost their mother. Our own mother, having been orphaned at a young age, felt compassion for these children and took them in as her own. We formed a lasting bond with the family and consider them to this day as our brothers and sisters.

We cherish many happy memories of our life in those days – the Christmas midnight masses, the family gatherings and the "special treats" our mother prepared for us. Though television did not exist then, we realized just the same that we were not dressed in the height of fashion. Nevertheless, we grew up and are perhaps richer for the experiences that poverty made us live.

Our parents remained on the farm until all the children left home and then moved to Falher. After our father passed away in 1978, Mother moved in with her bachelor son, Louis, on his farm in Guy. Always in good health, she keeps busy with her knitting and crocheting projects.

PERCHERON, HENRI

par Gilberte Lemay

Natif de Montréal, P.Q., Henri perdit sa mère quand il était assez jeune; son père le plaça dans une garderie en Gaspésie. Lorsqu'il fut assez grand, il quitta cette place et partit retrouver son père à Montréal. Mais celui-ci était déjà mort.

Il resta à Montréal chez des oncles et tantes quelques temps. Il avait un oncle, M. Léandre DesOrmeaux qui était à Debden, Saskatchewan depuis 1913. C'est là qu'il alla se réfugier vers 1918; il avait 21 ans. Il travailla sur la ferme avec son oncle durant l'été et l'hiver il allait dans les chantiers. C'est ainsi qu'il gagnait sa vie. Il prit un "homestead" non loin de chez son oncle, mais n'y fit aucune amélioration.

Vers les années 1923-24 il partit de Debden, voulant voyager un peu. C'est ainsi qu'il enten-

dit parler d'une région à Rivière La Paix, et décida de venir s'installer sur un "homestead". Il prit le terrain N.E. 3-76-21 au sud-est de Falher, et y construisit un "shack en log".

En 1927 ou 1928 il retourna à Debden pour une courte visite.

En 1931, avant même que la paroisse de Guy ne soit fondée, M. l'Abbé Mallet, venant par le chemin de Falher, se rendait quelques fois chez Henri Percheron afin d'y célébrer la sainte messe pour la population de ce district. Sa demeure servait aussi pour les assemblées des contribuables de ce district.

En 1942, après la mort de Louis Brulotte, un voisin, il acheta la terre de Mme Brulotte.

Au printemps de 1947, tout en étant en convalescence à la suite d'une importante intervention chirurgicale, il tenta de réparer son tracteur pour les semences avec l'aide d'un de ses voisins. En mettant le tracteur en marche, la manche de son manteau s'est prise dans la poulie. Le choc le renversa sur les crampons de la roue; son bras, son épaule et son côté furent meurtris. Durant l'année 1949 il dut faire trois séjours à l'hôpital de High Prairie.

Les années passèrent et Henri, toujours célibataire, continua avec courage à cultiver ses terres.

C'est le dimanche 12 août 1962 qu'il est décédé à l'hôpital de McLennan, Alberta après une longue maladie.

Son service fut chanté à Guy le 15 août par l'Abbé Claude De Champlain, curé de Guy. Il fut inhumé dans le cimetière de la paroisse.

* * *

Born in Montreal, P.Q. Henri lost his mother when very young; his father placed him in a orphanage in Gaspé Peninsula. When older he left this place to come back to Montreal and to his father, but this one had already passed away. He stayed with uncles and aunts for a while. He had one uncle Mr. Léandre DesOrmeaux who lived in Debden, Saskatchewan since 1913. He found refuge there in 1918 when he was 21. He worked on the farm with his uncle during the summer and in lumber camps during winter. He took a homestead near his uncle but did not make any improvements.

Around 1923 or 1924 he left Debden to travel a bit. It was then he heard about the Peace and decided to come and settle on a homestead, south-east of Falher. There he built a log shack.

In 1927 or 1928 he returned to Debden for a short visit.

In 1931 even before the parish of Guy was

founded Rev. Mallet coming from Falher would sometimes stop at Mr. Percheron's to celebrate Mass for the surrounding district. His residence would also serve for meetings.

In 1942 after Mr. Louis Brulotte's death, he bought the land from Mrs. Brulotte.

In the spring of 1947 while he was trying to repair his tractor for seeding, his sleeve caught in the pulley. He was thrown on the steel lugs of the wheel and his arm, his shoulder and his side were bruised. He was hospitalized three times in High Prairie hospital during 1949.

Years went by and Henri, single, courageously continued to work his land.

On Sunday August 12, 1962 he died in McLennan Hospital after a long illness.

PERREAULT, ERNEST & DUMESNIL, LUDIVINE

par Françoise Dechief

Leur premier hiver fut passé au chantier dans une grainerie de 12 pieds par 12 pieds, bien embouffetée et convertie en demeure. Le printemps venu M. Perreault bâtit lui-même leur première maison avec du beau bois sec qu'il avait fait l'année d'avant. Il a construit lui-même sa propre cheminée. Il se souvient que M. Aimé Gosselin lui ait mélangé son mortier le soir pour le travail du lendemain.

Ernest Perreault est né d'une famille de fermier à St-Adrien Ham près d'Asbestos, P.Q. le 26 avril 1904. Il vint s'établir dans l'ouest en 1928. Ludivine était venue visiter sa soeur à McLennan. Elle avait tellement aimé cette région de nombreuses épinettes majestueuses, qu'une fois retournée chez elle à Gravelbourg, elle réussit à convaincre ses parents de revenir avec elle en 1945. Deux ans plus tard Ludivine épousa Ernest Perreault à McLennan.



Ernest, Ludivine Perreault et M. Jos Gagnon.

Le couple s'établit donc sur NE 36-76-21-W5. Quand leur aînée Marie-Thérèse fut d'âge d'école, c'est Grand-mère Dumesnil qui lui enseignait ses premières leçons. L'école Benoît était trop loin pour une si petite fille, alors Grand-mère allait chez le maître Lefebvre qui lui prêtait des livres et indiquait les leçons qu'elle devait prendre. Quand David fut aussi d'âge scolaire et que la famille fut déménagée à Donnelly, Marie était prête à suivre les mêmes classes que les autres enfants de son âge.

Plus tard, leur maison fut achetée par Ephrem Lessard.

Ernest Perreault: n. 26-04-1904

m. 24-06-1947

Ludivine Dumesnil: n. 31-07-1907

Enfants:

1) Marie-Thérèse: n. 17-05-1948 m.

Billy Lawrence Spindler

4 enfants

2) David: n. 23-01-1951 m.

Lynn Edgarson

2 enfants

* * *

Their first winter they lived in a lumber camp in a 12 by 12 granary converted into a home. Come spring Mr. Perreault built their first house with lumber prepared the year before. Mr. Aimé Gosselin prepared the mortar and Mr. Perreault built the chimney himself.

Ludivine had come to McLennan to visit her sister and was impressed by the many majestic spruce trees. Having returned to Gravelbourg she convinced her parents to come back with her. Two years later she married Ernest.

When their daughter Marie-Thérèse reached school age Benoît school was too far so Grandma Dumesnil taught her first lessons and got books from the teacher, Mr. Lefebvre. When David reached school age and the family had moved to Donnelly, Marie was ready to join a regular classroom.

Later their house was bought by Ephrem Lessard.

PIERRE, HERVE

by Noel Boisvert

Herve was born in Quebec and worked his way West, stopping in Saskatchewan doing farm work. He arrived here in 1928 and filed on SW 1/4-20-76-21-W5 and lived there for a period of time. He sold this quarter to Tony Kato and moved to SE 1/4-17-76-21-W5. In later years, this

quarter was sold to Jules Bourgeois and Herve purchased land owned by Edwin Brennan and H. Hamel. He served in World War 1 and was severely wounded in France. This was to shorten his life and he died in Edmonton in 1960, and is buried in the Veterans Plot there.

* * *

Pierre Hervé est né au Québec et gagna sa vie tout en s'en venant dans l'Ouest; il travailla chez des fermiers en Saskatchewan. Il arriva dans la région en 1928, prit un "homestead" et y vécu pour un temps. Il vendit cette terre à Tony Kato puis s'en alla sur un autre quart de terre qui fut vendu à Jules Bourgeois. Ensuite Hervé acheta les terres de Edwin Brennan et H. Hamel. Il servit dans l'armée durant la première guerre mondiale et fut gravement blessé en France. Suite à ses blessures, il mourut à Edmonton en 1960 où il repose au cimetière des Vétérans.

PLANTE, GASTON & DUPUIS, ROSE

by Gaston Plante

I, Gaston Plante, born June 2, 1925, son of Etienne Plante and Melina Audi of Lac au Sable, P.Q. claim to be a lumberjack, farmer and piano repair man.

I came to Girouxville in 1946 to visit my two brothers who had come to Falher the previous fall to farm. As well as visiting my brothers, I wanted to have a first hand look at this part of the country.

The first year I worked as farm hand for Georges St. Jean of Jean-Cote, then for Wilbrod Desaulniers of Falher as carpenter.



Gaston Plante tuning piano.

Wanting to see British Columbia and to learn the English language I travelled to Vancouver where I lived for eight months doing a variety of jobs. One of these was delivering sawdust to the homes. At the time, sawdust was used for home heating. My work consisted of carrying two bags of sawdust on my back from the truck to the basement of the homes where the sawdust was stored. I also worked on night shift in a fish cannery. Later I worked in the mines in Princeton.

I made my way to Southern Alberta where I became employed by an ice-making company. Ice blocks placed in insulated ice-boxes were used for food refrigeration at that time. Ice making was a process similar to the making of home made ice-cream. A tank of five hundred pounds of fresh water was lowered in a tank of cold salt water. This was removed with a winch when frozen and the blocks stored in an insulated room. As ice delivery boy I would go from house to house supplying the householder's needs. My goal of learning the English language was forever with me. So when a frenchman joined our crew I would move on, because I knew if I worked with him I would be speaking my native tongue. This took me to Medicine Hat, Lethbridge and Calgary working for the same company, delivering ice and learning English.

I slowly worked my way to Clyde where I had the chance to work on a mechanized farm and I learned to operate the farm machinery. This in turn led me to the Alaska Highway, Mile 250, where I became Maintenance personnel.

On returning to visit my brothers in the Falher area, I met Rose Dupuis, daughter of Edward Dupuis and Lily Rickard, my brother's wife's sister who was visiting at their home at the time. It was love at first sight! After a short courtship which consisted mostly of taking her to the cinema, wedding bells rang! I have been happy and have never looked back. By now I was quite fluent in English, conversing very well, thank you, with my English-speaking wife.

The business of earning a living continued though. Mr. Emard owned a caterpillar tractor, the first in the region, I believe, and he was very busy digging dugouts for the farmers of the area. He required a driver, so that became my next occupation.

In 1955 wanting to settle down more permanently, I took land SW 6-19-75-W5 in the Guy area where my children attended school and where my wife and I are still living.

Farming did not bring quite enough income, so I took a course in piano tuning and repair with Audrey Willis School of Piano Technician,

Orlando, Florida, and have been in the business of repairing and selling pianos for the last thirteen years. I travel to High Level and other northern areas to Athabasca by R.V. tuning and repairing and selling pianos. My land is now rented and the piano business is my full time venture.

We have raised five children and presently have six grandchildren.

Gaston: n. 02-06-1925 m.

Rose Dupuis: n. 24-08-1933

CHILDREN:

1) Sylvianne: n. 04-05-1951 m. 06-03-1981

Ray Greenwood

She now lives in Calgary and works for Petro-Canada.

2) Fleurette: n. 29-12-1954 m. 08-11-1986

Garth Blair

She lives in Edmonton and works as financial assistant with the Dept. of Environment.

3) Rene: n. 06-03-1957 m. 27-06-1981

Heather Baldwin

He lives in Saskatchewan. After five years as an R.C.M.P. he is now engaged in ranching.

4) Dale: n. 18-08-1956 m. 17-05-1980

Debbie Cartier

He lives in Edmonton and travels across the three prairie provinces as consultant for Borden Chemicals.

5) David: n. 06-03-1959 m. 02-08-1980

Linda Cartier

He lives in Grande Prairie working as sheet metal mechanic.

* * *

Moi, Gaston Plante, je me présente comme étant un gars de chantier, un fermier et un réparateur de piano.

Je suis venu à Girouxville en 1946 pour visiter mes deux frères et pour voir le pays. J'ai travaillé comme employé de Georges St-Jean de Jean Côté, et de Wilbrod Desaulniers de Falher.

Voulant voir la Colombie-Britannique et apprendre l'anglais, j'ai voyagé à Vancouver. Je livrais du bran-de-scie pour chauffer les maisons et je travaillais le soir dans une conserverie de poisson. Plus tard, je travaillai dans les mines de Princeton.

Au sud de l'Alberta, je travaillai pour une compagnie de glace à Medicine Hat, Lethbridge et Calgary. Je vins à Clyde où je travaillai sur une ferme mécanisée et j'appris à opérer les machines aratoires. Ceci m'amena au mille 250 de la route de l'Alaska.

En revenant visiter mes frères à Falher, je rencontrai Rose Dupuis et tombai en amour. A

ce temps j'avais maîtrisé l'anglais et pouvais converser avec elle.

Je devins opérateur d'un tracteur-chenille pour M. Emard. En 1955, voulant m'installer, j'achetai un quart dans la région de Guy où mes enfants allèrent à l'école et où je vis avec ma femme.

Comme la ferme ne suffisait pas, je pris un cours de technicien et réparateur de piano et depuis treize ans je suis en affaires pour réparer et vendre des pianos. Je voyage de High Level à Athabasca. Mon terrain est loué et l'affaire des pianos occupe tout mon temps.

Nous avons élevé cinq enfants et avons précédemment six petits-enfants.

PRODANIUK, ALEC & MORIN, LOUISE

by Louise Aubin

Louise Morin, daughter of Sylvio Morin and Simone Fortier was born in Falher, September 11, 1940. Because of the distance to the Falher School she boarded at the convent bringing her grub-box consisting of a week's supply of food, a necessary economic arrangement at the time. In 1957-58 Louise attended McTavish College in Edmonton and obtained a secretarial diploma. She then worked two years in the High Prairie Hospital office.

In May 1960, she married Alec Prodaniuk in Drayton Valley. Because Alec was an oil field employee there was a succession of moves pertaining to the jobs: Cochrane, Edson, Judy Creek, Swan Hills.

When just out of High School, on the advice of her father, Louise filed on E ½ section 12-74-22. The young couple decided to try farming this land. Roads were trails at that time and when it rained it became quite impossible to seed. The spring of 1965 was such a year. The couple decided to go back to work for the oil rigs and earn money to buy farm machinery and to return to the farm in a couple of years. Fate proved otherwise. They never returned to the farm and sold the farm to Norman Lagace in 1970.

Alec died in a vehicle accident October 21, 1980. Later Louise renewed acquaintances with a former neighbor, Alberic Aubin, and they married in December 1981. The couple now resided on Alberic's farm 17-77-21-W5 till Alberic's death in October 1984. Louise then sold the farm to Michel Charest and moved to Falher.

Louise Morin: n. 11-09-1940 m. 08-05-1960 2m. 05-12-1981

1er mariage: Alec Prodaniuk: n. 06-09-1932 d. 21-10-1980

2ième mariage: Alberic Aubin: n. 28-04-1922 d. 08-10-1984

CHILDREN:

1) Debbie Prodaniuk: n. 17-09-1961 m. 28-07-1979

Grant Potts:

a) Travis: n. 21-12-1980

b) Jennifer: n. 17-08-1982

* * *

Louise Morin fréquenta l'école de Falher. En 1957-58 Louise fréquenta le collège McTavish à Edmonton obtenant un certificat de secrétaire. Elle travailla deux ans à l'hôpital de High Prairie.

Après leur mariage, parce qu'Alec travaillait à l'industrie du pétrole, le couple déménagea à Cochrane, Edson, Judy Creek et Swan Hills.

En sortant de la haute école, sur l'avis de son père, Louise prit un terrain. Le couple décida d'essayer de cultiver ce terrain. Après l'essai le couple retourna aux puits d'huile pour gagner de l'argent pour acheter les machines aratoires. Mais ils ne revinrent plus et vendirent la ferme à Norman Lagacé en 1970. Alec est décédé d'un accident de véhicule.

Plus tard Louise épousa en secondes noces Albéric Aubin et vécut sur la ferme d'Albéric jusqu'au décès de celui-ci.

Louise vendit la ferme à Michel Charest et déménagea à Falher.

PROULX, ADOLPHE

par Gilberte Lemay

Venus des provinces de l'Est, ils sont arrivés en 1928 avec leur jeune bébé adopté, Gaétan. Adolphe prit un "homestead" dans le nord-est de la paroisse S.W. 27-76-20 W5, région qu'on appelait le grand brûlé, parce que le feu avait brûlé presque tout le bois.

M. Proulx fait un ouvrier de métier. Durant l'hiver 1928-1929 il travailla au couvent à Donnelly, en 1930 il travailla à l'église de Donnelly. Il cultiva sa terre quelques années, mais ni lui ni sa dame se plaisaient dans l'Ouest, alors ils sont retournés dans l'Est. Il vendit sa terre à M. Jos Vrkljan.

* * *

Coming from the eastern provinces they arrived in 1928 with their young adopted baby, Gaétan. Adolphe took a homestead on the north-east area of the parish. This land had previously suffered a forest fire.



M. et Mme Adolphe Proulx.

Mr. Proulx was a carpenter. During the winter 1928–29 he worked at the convent in Donnelly and in 1930 he worked at the Donnelly church. He worked his land for a few years but neither him nor his wife enjoyed the West so they returned down east. He sold his land to Mr. Jos Vrkljan.

PROULX, GERARD & LAPALME, CHARLOTTE

par Charlotte Proulx Gagnon

Joseph Elisée Gérard Proulx est né le 29 novembre 1900 à l'Avenir, Cté de Drummond, P.Q. de Ludovic Proulx et Marie Louise Lecompte. Gérard a eu une enfance heureuse, des parents courageux et laborieux, très chrétiens. Il était le cinquième d'une famille de dix enfants.

A l'époque les petits garçons portaient des



Roméo Desfossés, Gérard, Charlotte Proulx et M. Adélar Giroux. Photo de noces en avant du couvent des Soeurs de Ste-Croix de Falher.

robes jusqu'à l'âge de deux ans. Un bon jour sa mère décide de lui faire une paire de culottes. Se voyant différent des autres, quel désespoir!

A neuf ans il perdit son père après une courte maladie. Il a travaillé bien jeune à la cabane à sucre.

Vers l'âge de dix-huit ans il décida de partir à l'aventure dans le but d'améliorer sa vie. Un ami de Gérard, Edgar Desfossés, partit pour le Dakota Sud travailler aux récoltes. En revenant au Québec il encouragea Gérard à le suivre. Comme de fait Gérard a été travailler à Viviane, Dakota, dans les grands champs de blé d'inde où la température était belle et chaude. Quelques années passèrent. Il partit rejoindre Edgar qui était allé demeurer près de la parenté à Wainwright, AB, où il a travaillé quelque temps.

Au printemps 1928 Edgar et Gérard décidèrent d'aller à Falher, AB. Ses voisins l'ont bien accueilli; ils ont une corvée pour lui construire une petite maison de 10'x12'. Les familles Bourgeois et Boisvert lui ont été bien sympathiques. Très souvent après le souper il allait passer la veillée chez une famille ou l'autre, chanter et dire la prière du soir. Ça lui faisait une très belle distraction. Il chantait à l'église le dimanche avec ses bons voisins. De temps à autres il se rendait à pieds à Falher pour gagner quelques dollars à trente-cinq sous de l'heure comme peintre. Il a réussi à ouvrir la moitié de son terrain.

A l'été 1932 Charlotte LaPalme, fille de Tan-crède et Elodie Beauchamp, vient visiter sa soeur Françoise Despins et rencontrer tous ses anciens amis de 1920. Elle fait connaissance avec Gérard Proulx. Elle retourne à Montréal mais correspond pendant un an et demi avec le

charmant jeune homme. Elle revient avec sa mère à Falher pour l'épouser.

Charlotte et Gérard se sont mariés le 26 décembre 1934 dans l'église de Falher. Ils ont eu quatre enfants.

Au mois d'août le Père Alfred Bouchard engage Gérard pour peindre l'intérieure de l'église de Falher.

Un samedi matin, le 11 janvier 1941, se préparant pour aller chanter au service anniversaire de Mme Paul Pelletier il tombe la tête la première dans un puits où il trouva la mort à l'âge de 40 ans.

Gérard Proulx: n.29-11-1900 m.26-12-1934 d.11-01-1941

Charlotte LaPalme: n.08-05-1905 2m Frank Gagnon

ENFANTS:

1. *Yolande: n.02-11-1935*

Jacques Moquin (Voir Moquin, Jacques)

2. *Claude: n.02-11-1936*

3. *Gilbert: n.24-07-1938*

4. *Lorraine: n.10-04-1940*

* * *

At the age of eighteen years, Gérard decided he needed some adventure in his life. One of his friends, Edgar Defossés, left for South Dakota and Gérard followed to go to work in the corn harvest. A few years went by and he decided to meet up again with Edgar who by this time was working in Wainright, Alberta.

In the spring of 1938, Gérard and his friend decided to move on to Falher where they were welcomed by their new neighbors who helped Gérard to build a house. Two families in particular (Bourgeois and Boisvert) became his close friends. Often he would spend an evening with them where he joined them in the evening prayer. On Sundays, he sang in the church choir. From time to time, he would walk to town to earn a few dollars as a painter. He succeeded in clearing half of his homestead.

The summer of 1932 brought Charlotte LaPalme to visit her sister in Falher. Gérard got to know her quite well. When she returned to Montréal, they continued their courtship by writing letters for one year and a half. By December 1935, Charlotte had returned, accompanied by her mother, to marry this charming young man. From their union four children were born.

On a Saturday morning, January 11, 1944, Gérard fell into a well where he was found dead at the age of 40 years.

REMILLARD, MARIE ANNE

by Yvette Bourgeois

Marie Anne Rémillard, widow of Théodore Rémillard moved from Girouxville to Guy in 1974. She resided on her son-in-law, René Bourgeois' farm until 1982, so as to be close to her only daughter, Yvette. She then moved to the Villa Beauséjour in Falher where she is presently residing.

Marie Anne Henley: n.19-08-1905 in Gaspé, Québec
m.17-07-1945 in St. Paul, Alberta

Théodore Rémillard: n.19-11-1899 d.26-02-1965 in Girouxville

CHILDREN:

1. Yvette: n.23-11-1946 m.02-12-1967

René Bourgeois: n.23-05-1943

2. Richard: n.03-07-1948 (adopted)

* * *

Marie Anne Rémillard, veuve de Théodore Rémillard déménagea de Girouxville à Guy en 1974. Elle demeura sur la ferme de son gendre, René Bourgeois pour être près de sa fille, Yvette. Elle déménagea ensuite à la Villa Beauséjour à Falher où elle demeure présentement.

RESTALL, HAROLD "HARRY"

by Charlotte Vowden Howe

Harold was born in Eccles, Manchester, England in 1890, the third of five children. His boyhood years consisted of schooling, music, (He played more than one instrument), and sports. He was, and remained an avid reader, this led him to read some articles about Canada. Being restless and discontented with his office job, surroundings and family he decided to come to Canada, arriving in Saskatchewan in the spring of 1909. He found farm work, worked in lumber camps during the winter and finally was hired by the railroad as section-hand. At the commencement of World War I he joined the army and was in the infantry. He went over seas and was reunited with his sister.

While in the trenches in France he met a young fellow from Peace River Country. He was fascinated by what he was told. He met George Vowden who was also intrigued. They started to make plans to come to the "great land" if they were spared. They were, completed their plans and came to Guy in June 1919.

He was a very slow, precise, methodical man with little conception of time. He was also an "asthmatic". This state of health was not an asset; therefore these things didn't help make



Mrs. Fred Vowden & Harry Restall.

him a good successful farmer. The combination of these factors made him the butt of many a joke which he came to expect and learned to handle with dignity or, upon occasion, use them to his benefit, or yet again turn them around. One such occasion was when he took two days to make a batch of bread. He became interested in a book, set the bread and forgot to punch it down when necessary. When it baked, company came and complimented him on how light and tasty it was.



Harvey Howe & uncle Harry Restall.

He just laughed and said he had to let it rise a little longer than usual.

He was very interested in young people and took a great interest in their education. He was very active in school affairs as it seems all bachelors were. He was also a very active member of the Farmers' Union.

To him life was a gift, a miracle, to be lived, enjoyed and experienced to the fullest. There were no such thing as growing old, being bored, or inconsiderate. Living was an adventure to be explored and made full use of.

As a boy in England he had made and flown kites, which were a great fascination to him. When I became of age to enjoy the hobby with him we spent many happy hours together as also did my children. More than one person thought he was "crazy", especially when he would fly multiple kites at one time experimenting to try and find out the same flying qualities of each under the same flying conditions. Needless to say children were interested and most fascinated.

In the fall of 1970 or 71 he decided to move into the nursing home in McLennan. His great love of reading, music, and gardening were pursued, up until a few months before he died. He could be heard softly playing the piano for other people or just for his own pleasure. During the summer, he planted flowers beneath his sister's windows, so she could look down and enjoy them.

He finally succumbed to cancer and died in October, 1975.

* * *

Harold est né à Eccles, Manchester en Angleterre en 1890 le troisième de cinq enfants. Il aimait la musique, la lecture et les sports. Il lut des articles sur le Canada qui l'ont intéressé à venir dans ce pays. Il arriva en Saskatchewan en 1909 où il travailla sur des fermes, dans les chantiers et enfin pour le chemin de fer.

Au début de la première guerre mondiale, il s'engagea dans l'armée. Dans les tranchées de France il rencontra un jeune soldat de la Rivière-la-Paix, ainsi que George Vowden. C'est là qu'ils décidèrent de se rendre dans cette région après la guerre s'ils étaient épargnés. Ils arrivèrent à Guy au mois de juin 1919.

Harold s'intéressait à la jeunesse et s'occupait des affaires d'école. Il était aussi un membre actif des "Fermiers Unis".

En 1971 il déménagea au foyer Notre Dame du Lac à McLennan où on pouvait souvent l'entendre jouer le piano. Il est mort du cancer en octobre 1975.

REY, EMILE & AUBIN, JANINE

by Emile Rey

In 1946 I bought section 2-76-22-W5 from Hermas Ethier. It was a picturesque setting along the banks of the Little Smoky River. It was an ideal location for my ranching operation. After Janine and I were married, we continued to make our home there.



R.1 Janine, Vivianne. R.2 Emile, Léona, Jason. R.3 Léon.



Emile on horseback with his cattle on the River flat.

In July 1954, the land slide occurred and the landscape was changed forever more. The bank slid down approximately 60 feet, breaking one field into two levels, thrusting up the river bed, altering the course of the river. A new access road had to be constructed. It was very steep. We had many sightseers that summer and I had to help many of them get back up the hill.

In 1955, the river flooded. It was time to move!

I subsequently settled on the paternal home-



Leon Rey drinking from the river (4 years old).

stead near Falher. I retained the ranching property and continued to ranch there until 1962 at which time I sold to Eugene Alexandre.

Emile Rey: n.14-05-1917 m.17-01-1951

Janine Aubin: n.06-03-1930

CHILDREN:

1. Vivian: n.13-09-1951 m.04-12-1976
Burke Bechtel. They have one child: Brigitte.
2. Leona: n.19-07-1954 m.14-07-1973
Michel Labrecque. They have two children:
Brian and Jeffrey.
3. Leon: n.18-12-1957
Louise Dupuis. They have three children:
Bobbi-Jo, Crystal and Tyler.
4. Jason: n.09-03-1970

* * *

En 1946, j'ai acheté une section d'Hermas Ethier. En plus d'être un site pittoresque, c'était un endroit idéal pour l'opération de mon ranch. Après notre mariage, Janine et moi continueront d'y faire notre "chez nous".

En octobre 1954, il y eu un éboulis et le paysage fut complètement changé. La côte glissa d'à peu près 60 pieds divisant un champ en deux niveaux et changeant le cours de la rivière. Un autre chemin d'accès dû être construit. C'était bien à pic.

En 1955, la rivière inonda. C'était le temps de partir!

Je me suis installé sur le "homestead" paternel près de Falher. J'ai continué le ranch jusqu'en 1962 au temps où j'ai vendu à Eugène Alexandre.

RICKARD, EDWARD & ZAPSHALA, LUCIA

by Roger Winnicky

Edward Rickard was born on a sailing ship October 27, 1859, with a home address of Plymouth, England. His birthplace seems appropriate since his grandfather, father, and brothers were all associated with the sea and served as captains and officers, with Edward following their footsteps. In approximately 1875 the whole family except one daughter moved to Canada by boat, and Edward homesteaded in the Goodeve, Saskatchewan area. There he met Lucia Zapshala whom he married at Goodeve, Saskatchewan in 1906. Lucia was born in Rokynica, Poland on December 8, 1884. Her father Martin Zapshala and mother Mary Elizabeth were both born in Poland and raised four sons and daughter Lucia.

The entire family immigrated by boat to Canada in April 1904 and in the same year they homesteaded in the Goodeve, Saskatchewan area.

Edward and Lucia had five daughters: Mary Elizabeth (J.J. Winnicky); Lillian Helen (E. Dupuis); Catherine Katie (F. Spearey); Jessie Edith (E. Vandal); and Nellie Angeline (B. May). Two sons died at birth.

Lillian and her husband Ed Dupuis moved to Guy and homesteaded on the NW-35-75-21-

W5 in 1928. Daughter Mary Elizabeth married John J. Winnicky (see J.J. Winnicky autobiography) and the Winnicky and Rickard Families, except Katie moved to the Falher area (Ballater) on April 11, 1930.

After arriving, Grandpa Edward took a homestead on the NW36-75-21-W5 (where the Guy Cemetery is now located). Since there were no roads, he and son-in-law John Winnicky had to head across country through mud on horseback to register at Land Titles in Donnelly. The Rickard's lived at the John Winnicky homestead for five years. He cancelled his homestead and took another in the Little Smoky Valley on the SW9-75-21-W5th, which is now owned by John J. Winnicky.



E. Rickard, J. Winnicky & Roger, Louis Moreau and Nick Andriowski, 1940.



Roger Winnicky (grandson), Ed Rickard & Lucia, 1940.

Grandpa Edward was an intellectual. He was an avid hockey fan and served on various committees including secretary of the Whitemud School District. He passed away on December 8, 1942 and is buried in the Guy Cemetery.

Grandma Lucia was a hard working little lady. She was devoutly religious and compassionate, but had a charming wit and a fiery temper. Her cooking was second to none as the threshing gangs and anyone who visited our home would attest. Grandma passed away on January 28, 1967 and is buried beside her husband in the Guy Cemetery.

* * *

*Edward Rickard est né sur un bateau en mer.
Ceci est approprié puisqu'il naissait dans une
famille de marins.*

*En 1875 la famille arrive au Canada et
Edward prend du terrain à Goodeve, Sask.*

Edward, son épouse Lucia Zapshala et leurs



Grandma Rickard and great granddaughter Marjorie Poole.



E. Rickard and Nellie Rickard 1933.

cinq filles arrivent à Ballater le 11 avril 1930. Il prend un terrain où se trouve présentement le cimetière de Guy, avec son gendre John J. Winnicky. Cinq ans plus tard, ils déménagent dans Little Smoky Valley, où John J. Winnicky vit encore aujourd'hui.

Edward servit la communauté en étant secrétaire du district scolaire Whiteland.

Edward et Lucia Rickard reposent au cimetière de Guy.

ROBERT, ARTHUR HENRI & BOUCHER, DELIA

par Soeur Eva extrait de "Leurs rêves nos mémoires"

Ces deux braves gens, mon père et ma mère étaient natifs de la Province de Québec, mais ils ont émigré aux Etats-Unis avec leurs parents, dans la partie Franco-Américaine d'alors. Plus tard ils se marièrent à Marlborough, Mass.

En 1913, répondant à l'appel d'un prêtre colonisateur, M. et Mme Robert se rendirent à St-Paul en Alberta, pour patenter un "homestead". Après quelques temps d'insuccès dans ce domaine inexpérimenté et se confiant en la Divine Providence ils allèrent en Colombie Britannique afin de tenter fortune ailleurs et de pouvoir ainsi donner à leurs enfants une éducation complète. C'est ainsi qu'ils purent envoyer leurs garçons au Collège des Jésuites à Edmonton pour leur cours classique et leur fille au couvent.



Léo, Jos Lagacé, Mme Robert, Mme Lagacé, Rita Johnson, Marguerite Forcier, Rose Lagacé.

Normand, l'aîné des trois, est prêtre dominicain, présentement à Fall River, Mass. Marie-Eva, Fille de Jésus, demeure à Edmonton et Valmare, époux de Marcella Dandurand, est retiré à Victoria, C.B. De cette union naquirent quatre enfants.

En 1923, ils ont tenu hôtel à Calgary avant de se diriger vers Donnelly en 1929. Mme Lagacé, dont le époux, Joseph, était forgeron de ce village, demanda à sa soeur, Madame Robert si ils aimeraient acheter l'hôtel de Donnelly que M. Brisson mettait en vente. Peu après cet achat conclu, commencèrent malheureusement les dures années de la crise économique.

Ils ont cru bon de vendre l'hôtel en 1935 et d'aller s'installer à Guy afin d'aider à la fondation de cette paroisse en s'y procurant un magasin où ils ont réussi à obtenir le bureau de poste. Ils devaient se rendre souvent à Donnelly afin de se procurer de la marchandise arrivant par le train. Plusieurs fois, Madame Robert faisait elle-même ce trajet de 12 milles, même dans les plus gros froids de l'hiver et cela avec un "team" de chevaux.

Un de ces durs matins d'hiver, le Curé St-



M. Arthur Robert en avant de son magasin.

Pierre demanda à M. Robert de rentrer des bil-lots de bois pour chauffer l'église. Voilà qu'un gros morceau de bois glissa entre lui et la voi-ture et le frappa si fort qu'il eut des côtes cassées et un poumon perforé. On le transporta, avec peine et misère, à l'hôpital de McLennan où le Docteur Piché le soigna si bien qu'il réussit à le mettre sur pied après plusieurs mois de souf-frances atroces.

Vers 1940, ils vendirent leur magasin et leur "homestead" de Guy. Ils se rendirent à Prince Rupert, C.B. car, cette fois, c'était Valmare, leurs fils qui était victime d'un grave accident à la suite duquel il faillit perdre son bras droit.

Après quelques temps passés en C.B., ils se retirèrent à Edmonton où ils jouirent d'une vieillesse paisible. En 1954, ils fêtèrent leurs noces d'or et dix ans plus tard leurs noces de diamant.

Pour les derniers mois de leur existence, ils furent admis au Foyer Youville à Saint-Albert, où ils rendirent doucement leur dernier soupir. C'est dans le cimetière de cette ville qu'ils furent



Norman (Dominican), M. et Mme Arthur Robert, Sr Eva, Fille de Jésus et Valmare Robert.

inhumés, Madame Robert le 20 février 1967 et son époux le 9 mars 1970.

Qu'ils reposent en paix.

* * *

In 1913 answering the call of a colonizing priest, Mr. and Mrs. Robert left Massachusetts to come to Saint-Paul, Alberta Taking up a home- stead. Not being successful because of their inexperience they left after a while to go to British Columbia to earn a living. Consequently they were able to send their sons to the Jesuit College in Edmonton and their daughter to the convent.

Normand is a Dominican priest, presently at Fall River, Mass. Marie-Eva, Fille de Jésus, resides in Edmonton and Valmare, married to Marcella Dandurand has retired in Victoria, B.C. Four children were born to this couple.

In 1923, they managed a hotel in Calgary before coming to Donnelly in 1928. Mrs. Lagacé, whose husband was a blacksmith in this village, asked her sister, Mrs. Robert if they would care to buy the Donnelly Hotel. Not long after the tran- saction was made came the rough depression years.

They thought best to sell the hotel in 1935 and settle in Guy so as to help with the foundation of this parish by buying a store and obtaining the post office as well. They often had to travel to Donnelly in order to get the merchandise arri- ving by train. Many times, Mrs. Robert made that trip in the cold of winter with a team of horses.

Around 1940 they sold their store and their homestead. They travelled to Prince Rupert, B.C. because this time Valmare was the victim of a bad accident; a consequence of which he nearly lost an arm.

After a few years in B.C. they retired in Edmonton where they enjoyed a peaceful old age. In 1954 they celebrated their Golden wed- ding anniversary and ten years later their Dia- mond jubilee.

ROMANIUK, JOHN (1m) & ZESKO, ANNA KOLIBABA, JOHN (2m)

by Anna Kolibaba

I was born in Russia in 1918 and came to Canada from Poland at the age of 12 years with my parents, my brother John and my sister Jenny. My father, Andrew Zesko (1897- 1971) and my mother Ephrosynia (1896-1979) left their parents and many relatives behind in Russia and Poland in search of land and opportunity in Canada.

We arrived in Quebec City on the ship named



Walter, John, Helen, Anna, Tony Romaniuk.

“Megantic”. It was 1930, the depression had set in and we occasionally questioned the wisdom of our immigration to Canada! From Quebec we travelled westward to Swan River, Manitoba and stayed there for 6 months with relatives, the Shyburnias. Upon learning of the available homesteads in the area of Guy, we travelled westward again and settled in the close proximity of relatives and old friends (1½ miles east of Guy, Alberta).

My husband-to-be, John Romaniuk (1910–1948), also arrived from Russia in 1930 with his father, Konstantin Romaniuk (1874–1957), mother, Fedosyia (1879–1954) and brother, Konstantin, Jr. who was accidentally killed by a falling tree the same year they arrived.

I was married to John Romaniuk from 1936 until his passing in 1948. We had four children: Walter, Tony, Helen, and the eldest, Leonard who died at the age of 1 ½ years. Upon my husband’s passing, my children and I moved in with my parents who lived approximately 3 miles from my home. I built a new house near my parents home and there received the help and support of family and neighbours.

I met and married my second husband, John Kolibaba (1915–1968) of Nampa, Alberta in 1949. John was a widower with two children, Phyllis and Vicky. In 1952 a son, Leonard, was born to us.

As my family grew, it was my greatest desire to allow them an education so that their struggles would be less than mine. We bought a house in Peace River to enable the children to have the opportunity to attend and complete High School. My husband, John Kolibaba, loved farming and continued farming while I split the

housekeeping chores between the two homes. In 1968, my second husband passed away and shortly thereafter I decided to leave the farm and move to Peace River permanently. My brother, Victor Zesko, took over the farming operation and to date still rents my farms.



Anna & John Kolibaba.

My recollection of our community would have to include my supportive family, our church, our friends and neighbours. Our church affiliation changed from Russian Orthodox to Church of God as Reverend William Lusch pastored a congregation nearby. Rev. Lusch and his family not only provided us with the spiritual ministry but also the ministry of fellowship, caring and support. My neighbours were unforgettable as we shared in the joys and sorrows of life. I will never forget the hand of friendship



Romaniuk & Kolibaba children.

that was extended to us by the French-speaking community. I am honored to have known the many wonderful, caring friends and neighbours of the Guy community.

I am especially grateful to Mrs. Benoit who taught at the Whiteland School. She provided not only the essential ingredients of education, but also good values and competitive spirit. She challenged my children to reach plateaus beyond my expectations.

I now reside in my home in Peace River. My family has moved to various locations for job opportunities. I enjoy gardening and visiting my children and friends. In spite of all the hardships and struggles, I can say I am very fortunate to have come to this wonderful country of Canada.



Anna, Leonard and John Kolibaba.

CHILDREN:

- 1) Walter Romaniuk: n. 1940

Elaine Gilbertson:

- a) Robert: n. 1975
- b) Patricia: n. 1978

Walter is self-employed in the Engineering and Contracting business. He is active in the Meadowlark Baptist Church and the Strathcona Rotary Club, Edmonton.

- 2) Tony Romaniuk: n. 1942

Leona Ryle

- a) Greg: n. 1967
- b) Kerry: n. 1979
- c) Debbie: n. 1984

Tony graduated from Business Administration and now sells Real Estate. Tony is an avid golfer. (Spruce Grove)

- 3) Helen Romaniuk: n. 1945

Ed Dawson:

- a) David: n. 1971
- b) Kristina: n. 1974

Helen graduated from the University of Alberta in Education, but has given up teaching for home-making and assisting her husband with his business. Helen & Ed are active in the Comox Anglican Church, Comox, B.C.

- 4) Leonard Kolibaba: n. 1952

Colleen Lubeck:

- a) Stephanie: n. 1982
- b) Sonia: n. 1983

Len is a Heavy Duty Mechanic. He loves sports, especially golf. (Spruce Grove)

- 5) Phyllis Kolibaba: n. 1943

?? Remple:

They have four children: Ann and Curtis, Joanne and Shauna.

Phyllis resides in Vernon, B.C. and is employed as a secretary.

- 6) Vicky Kolibaba: n. 1945 d. 1977

Les Hibbard:

- a) Jordan: n. 1977

Vicky graduated from the University of Alberta in Education and also attended the University of Quebec. She taught French Language in the Peace River Senior High School. Vicky was killed in an auto accident.

* * *

Je suis née en Russie en 1918 et vint au Canada de la Pologne à l'âge de 12 ans avec mes parents, mon frère John et ma soeur Jenny.

Arrivés à la ville de Québec en 1930, la dépression était courante. De Québec nous voyagions à Swan River, Manitoba demeurant six mois avec la parenté, les Shybungia. Apprenant qu'à Guy il y avait des terres disponibles nous vinrent nous y établir à proximité de parents et de vieux amis.

Mon futur mari vint aussi de Russie en 1930 avec son père, sa mère et un frère qui fut tué accidentellement par la chute d'un arbre, la même année.

J'ai vécu avec John Romaniuk de 1936 à 1948. Nous avons eu quatre enfants. Après sa mort mes enfants et moi avons déménagé avec mes parents. J'ai bâti une maison neuve près de la leur et là j'ai reçu aide et support de ma famille et des voisins.

J'ai rencontré et marié mon deuxième mari John Kalibaba de Nampa. Il avait deux enfants

et nous eûmes un fils. Ce fut mon grand désir de faire instruire mes enfants. Pour ce faire nous avons acheté une maison à Peace River et nos enfants ont pu fréquenter la haute école. Comme mon mari aimait la ferme, je faisais la navette entre les deux maisons. Après son décès je déménageai définitivement à Peace River.

SAGULA, MIKE

by Françoise Dechief

Mr. Mike Sagula was a cheerful fellow of Chechoslovakian origin. He filed on his land NE 30-76-20-W5 in 1928. On his land was a fresh water spring which he shared with his neighbors whenever they needed it. He also made some wine and the odd batch of moonshine. Besides his native tongue, he spoke French and English, which I imagine must have been very handy with so many neighbors who spoke one or the other language.

He opened part of his land by hand and with the help of his horses. He owned a small forge and did his own blacksmithing.

Neither his wife nor family ever joined him in Canada. When he sold his land to Mr. Ernest Gosselin around 1945, he left for the Fort St. John area where he had often gone to work in lumber camps for months at a time. His important papers and passport were in safekeeping with the Gosselin family. He never came to claim these and after a few years, the family lost track of him altogether.

* * *

M. Sagula était un type joyeux d'origine Tchecoslovaque. Il prit un "homestead" en 1928. Sur son terrain il y avait une source d'eau fraîche qu'il partageait volontier avec ses voisins. Il faisait du vin et de la "bagotte". En plus de sa langue maternelle, il parlait le français et l'anglais.

Il ouvrit son terrain à la main et avec l'aide de ses chevaux. Il avait une petite forge.

Quand il vendit son terrain à M. Ernest Gosselin vers 1945, il partit pour Fort St. John où il avait déjà travaillé dans les chantiers.

Il laissa ses papiers importants et son passeport avec la famille Gosselin. Il n'est jamais revenu réclamer ceux-ci et après quelques années, la famille a perdu contact avec lui.

SAULNIERS, WILLIAM

par Françoise Dechief

M. Saulniers est né à Bouctouche, Nouveau-Brunswick, en 1871. Il fut le premier à faire application pour un "homestead" dans le dis-

trict de Girouxville, le 6 décembre 1913. Il est demeuré dans ces parages jusqu'en 1920. Il loua sa terre et alla demeurer à Edmonton. Il revint vers 1926 et vendit sa terre à Albert Bélanger. Au début des années cinquante il prit du terrain à un mille au nord de la grande route qui va vers High Prairie et qui appartient maintenant à M. Paul Bisson. Il n'avait qu'un petit jardin et n'ouvrit jamais de terrain. Il aimait se promener d'un voisin à l'autre et prendre un repas ici et là. Il aimait sa pipe et ses chiens, spécialement son chien, Dick.



Rita Turcotte, William Saulniers, Yvette Turcotte. M. Saulniers aimait aller aux noces.

M. Aurèle Benôit lui bâtit plus tard une petite maison en arrière de son magasin, où il demeura quelques années. Il fut concierge à l'école pour quelque temps.

Un jour d'hiver, lors d'une de ses visites, il perdit son chemin, et se gela les mains et les pieds. Il fut alors hospitalisé et se réfugia ensuite dans un foyer pour les vieillards, à St. Albert, AB. Il était célibataire.

Mr. Saulniers was born in Bouctouche, New Brunswick, in 1871. He was the first to file a homestead in the Girouxville area on December 6, 1913. He lived there until 1920 when he rented his farm and went to live in Edmonton. He came back around 1926 and sold his farm to Albert Bélanger.

At the begining of the fifties, he took land one mile north of the highway going to High Prairie, this land now belongs to Paul Bisson. He had only a small garden, he never cleared land. He liked to visit with neighbors and to take his meals here and there. He loved his pipe and his dogs, especially the one called, "Dick".

Later, Mr. Aurele Benoit built him a little house behind the store where he lived for a few years. He was janitor at the school for some time.

One winter day, on one of his visits, he lost his way and had his hands and feet frozen. He was taken to the hospital and later to the Nursing Home in St. Albert, Alberta.

SAWCHYN, WILLIAM (SR.) & HUMENIUK, NATALIE

by Natalie Sawchyn

William Sawchyn was born on October 25th, 1905 in Ylichno, Ukraine, a village two miles from the capital of Drohrobowick. William's father was Maxim and his mother Katherine from the capital city. He was the youngest of a family of eight children. Andrew, Mike, Nick, Nancy, Pearl, Mary and Julia. Father was a carpenter and barber for most of his friends and neighbors, Mother was a good cook, singer and dancer.

Young William started working at age five as a shepherd, watching over other people's sheep and cattle. This he did for food and clothing. At age fourteen he started working for more prosperous farmers for clothes and a little pay. It was hard work- He did farm work and brick laying. Everything around the farm was hauled by a wheelbarrow.

William's brother Mike came to Canada in 1912 and settled in Saskatchewan. Later he moved to Big Prairie, Alberta, in the Grouard district, where he happily farmed.

William came to Canada in 1927 on a ship named Polonia. When he boarded the ship his friends escorted him with a band to bid him farewell. On reaching Canada, William had only \$10.00 in his pockets. This he had to use for food as he travelled on the train from Halifax to his uncle's place in Fanwood, Saskatchewan. The young man then had to work three years for his



William, Natalie and William Jr Sawchyn.

uncle to fulfill his passport obligations. Then his uncle tried to convince him that if he continued living with him, he would sign his property over to William. On finding out that \$3,000 was still owing on the farm, William decided against that move. The wages were very poor at that time and the young man believed he could never pay that enormous debt. So he decided to go on his own, to leave Saskatchewan and to look for a homestead in Alberta.

He left by train in 1930 and came to Peace River. He filed on a homestead in the french community of Guy, not knowing how to speak french or english. All young William had to work with was a double blade axe and a pack sack. He started cutting trees for the french people of the area in order to raise enough money to open up his own land. He worked around the Falher area for \$2.00 a day, with room and board or at grubbing for 50 cents an acre also including room and board. The french people were very good and nice to him.

By 1941 he had seventy-five acres under cultivation. He decided that he could afford to marry. His choice was Natalie Humeniuk of Heart River. Natalie worked by her husband's side during thirty-one years. It was not easy, but it was home and a good place to raise the three children.

Mr. and Mrs. Sawchyn retired in 1972. They have been living in Saskatchewan since 1977. They are still both healthy, engaging in the many interests that they couldn't afford or take time to enjoy.

William Sawchyn: n. 25-10-1905

m. 02-02-1941

Natalie Humeniuk: n. 07-01-1925

Children:

1) Helen: n. 22-11-1942

m. 06-10-1961 John Fudali

2) William Pete: n. 04-12-1944
 m. 25-10-1965 Yvonne Thibault a lovely french girl from Donnelly. They live on the family farm. They have three children.
 3) Annette: n. 22-07-1947
 m. 23-08-1969 George Furu. Lethbridge, Alberta

* * *

Le jeune William commença à travailler à l'âge de cinq ans comme berger, gardant moutons et bêtes à cornes. Il faisait ceci pour manger et s'habiller. A quatorze ans il travailla pour des fermiers pour s'habiller et recevait une petite paye. C'était dur car tout se transportait par brouette et il travaillait à la ferme comme maçon.

Son frère vint au Canada en 1912 et s'installa en Saskatchewan, et plus tard à Big Prairie, Alberta et y cultiva.

William quitta l'Ukraine pour le Canada en 1927. Il avait dix dollars en poche à son arrivée. Il voyagea par train d'Halifax à Fanwood, Saskatchewan. Il devait travailler trois ans pour son oncle. Son oncle voulait qu'il travaille pour lui afin d'avoir un jour la propriété de la ferme, mais William en décida autrement.

Il se rendit en Alberta. En 1930, il vint à Peace River et prit un "homestead" à Guy. Il ne parlait ni français ni anglais. Il avait une hache à deux tranchants et un sac à dos. Il se mit à couper des arbres pour les Canadiens-Français de la région pour gagner assez d'argent pour avoir son propre terrain. Il travailla autour de Falher pour 2,00 \$ par jour, logé et nourri, et 50 cents l'acre pour essoucher, logé et nourri. Les canadiens-français étaient bons et gentils avec lui.

En 1941, il avait soixante quinze acres en culture. Il décida qu'il pourrait se marier. Son choix s'arrêta sur Natalie Humeniuk, de Heart River. Elle travailla trente et un ans à ses côtés. Ce ne fut pas facile mais c'était un chez-soi et un bon endroit pour élever une famille.

SAWCHYN, WILLY & THIBAUT, YVONNE

On October 25, 1965 Willy Sawchyn married Yvonne Thibault of Donnelly. From there, they decided to farm and it was not until 1971 that they legally took over the family farm. Little by little they have achieved what they both had set out to do; to have a nice small farm. As of today, they have ten quarters of land.

They have 3 children; two sons and 1 daughter. Rick, Dwayne and Karen Lee. Both



R.1 Dwayne, Karen, William Sr. R.2 Rick, William Jr, Yvonne Sawchyn.

Rick and Dwayne have graduated, and Karen Lee is in grade 12 this year.

* * *

Le 25 octobre 1965, Willy et Yvonne Thibault de Donnelly se marièrent. Ils décidèrent de cultiver et ce ne fut qu'en 1971 qu'ils assumèrent légalement la ferme familiale. Petit à petit ils atteignirent leur but: avoir une belle petite ferme. Ils ont maintenant dix quarts de terre.

Ils ont trois enfants dont deux sont déjà diplômés.

SEGUIN, PAUL & MARTIN, JOCELYNE

par Jocelyne

Paul Ségin naquit à Bonnyville, Alberta le 9 mars 1945, onzième d'une famille de douze enfants de M. et Mme Emile Séguin.

Jocelyne Martin, fille de Léo et Germaine Martin, naquit le 26 septembre 1945 à Edmonton, Alberta, deuxième d'une famille de trois enfants.

Paul et Jocelyne se sont mariés le 20 octobre 1973 à St-Albert, Alberta. En septembre 1974, nous avons déménagé à Guy, Alberta. Paul est devenu directeur de l'école Langlois et il a enseigné au primaire pendant cinq ans. Jocelyne travaillait comme aide professeur jusqu'à l'arrivée de la petite Carmen en 1977. Ensuite je suis restée à la maison. Nous avons eu de bonnes expériences durant notre séjour à Guy.

Nous avons vécu dans un petit appartement dans l'école même et c'était bien confortable. Les deux premières années que nous étions là, le système de chauffage était au charbon et ensuite



Soirée d'adieu pour M. et Mme Séguin: Ernest Chauvet, René Mercier, Carmen, Jocelyne Séguin, Debbie Bouchard présente les fleurs. Paul Séguin et le Père Denis Dubuc.

au propane. Souvent nous manquions de chaleur et nous venions à bout de nous réchauffer avec la chaleur du fourneau et aussi avec une ou deux chaufferettes électriques. Nous gardions deux gros barils d'eau douce(eau de pluie) dans notre salon. Cette eau était bonne pour laver le beau linge, car l'eau que nous avions à l'école n'était pas trop propre, elle tachait le linge, alors le plus beau linge, nous le lavions à la main avec de l'eau douce. Ça nous faisait penser au bon vieux temps quand nous étions jeunes.

Nous n'oublions pas les gens avec qui nous avons travaillé tel que le personnel de l'école, tous nos élèves ainsi que tous les parents et aussi notre bon Père Lucien Lafontaine.

En septembre 1979, nous sommes déménagés à Slave Lake, Alberta où Paul enseigne la troisième année. En 1979, nous avons eu une belle addition à notre petite famille, un petit garçon qui s'appelle Daniel, un petit frère pour Carmen. Maintenant notre petite famille est complète et nous sommes des parents très fiers.



R.1 David, Carmen. R.2 Paul, Jocelyne.

Paul Séguin was born at Bonnyville, Alberta on March 9, 1945. He was the eleventh in the family of twelve children of Mr. and Mrs. Emile Séguin.

Jocelyne Martin, daughter of Léo and Germaine Martin was born on September 26, 1945 in Edmonton, Alberta. She is the second child of a family of three.

Paul and Jocelyne were married on October 20, 1973 in St-Albert, Alberta. In September 1974, we moved to Guy, Alberta. Paul was the principal at the Langlois School as well as teaching the primary grades for five years. Jocelyne worked as a teacher aide until the arrival of our little Carmen in 1977. Then I stayed home. We had numerous enjoyable experiences during our stay in Guy.

We lived in a small, but comfortable apartment right inside the school. As for the heating system, the first few years we were there, it was heated with coal, then progressed to a propane system. We ran out of heat on many occasions. One way to warm up our apartment was to turn on the oven and open the oven door. We used one or two electric heaters as well. We kept two big barrels of soft water in our living room. This water was collected from rain. Often the water from the tap was not very clear and it would stain our clothes. So with the collected water, we used to wash our best clothes by hand. These experiences reminded us so much of the olden days when we were very young.

We are not forgetting the people with whom we worked; for example, the school personnel, all the students and also all the parents and our devoted local priest Rev. Lucien Lafontaine.

In September 1979, we moved to Slave Lake, Alberta, where Paul has taught grade three ever since. Also in 1979, we had a very nice addition to our little family, a little boy called Daniel, a small brother for Carmen. Now our family is complete and we are very proud parents.

SERVANT, ALFRED & DELAGE, YOLANDE

par Doris Roy

Alfred Servant fils de Albert Servant et Alice Poulin de McLennan, est né le 27 septembre 1932.

Il a épousé Yolande Délage, fille d'Albert Délage et Yvonne Drouin. Ils ont déménagé plusieurs fois les premières années, car Alfred travaillait dans les chantiers et pour les compagnies d'huile. Finalement en 1966 ils ont déménagé sur leur "homestead" SW 22-75-19-



André, Léon, Doris, Yolande & Alfred Servant.

W5M. Alfred cultivait l'été et travaillait pour les compagnies d'huile l'hiver.

En 1977, Alfred vendit ses terres à Marcel Maisonneuve et déménagea à Rocky Mountain House.

Alfred Servant: n. 27-09-1932 m. 16-06-1955

Yolande Délage: n. 22-07-1937 d. 04-06-1976

ENFANTS:

1) Doris: n. 15-07-1956 m. 29-08-1975

Louis Roy: fils d'Arthur Roy et Hélène Dumas.

Ils habitent Grande Prairie.

2) Léon: n. 09-04-1958 d. 8-11-1987

3) André: n. 13-08-1959 m. 10-07-1986

Ann Marie Tanasichuck

Ils demeurent sur une ferme à neuf milles de Donnelly Corner

* * *

During the first years of their marriage they were on the move because Alfred worked in lumber camps and for oil companies. Finally in 1966, they settled on their homestead. Alfred would farm in the summer and work for oil companies in winter.

In 1977 Alfred sold his land to Marcel Maisonneuve and moved to Rocky Mountain House.

SIDOROFF FAMILY HISTORY

by Gerald Sidoroff

In 1914, at Novgorod, south of Leningrad, U.S.S.R., Efrem Kononov and his son-in-law Afanasi Sidorovich ponder the fateful and ominous signs of war. They are poor peasant farmers. Afanasi, a strong, handsome young man of 38, must go to war. He is torn between two loyalties his family and his Czar. It is a terrifying time, civil unrest, horrifying reports of killings, loved ones disappearing without a trace. The

Bolsheviks are gaining more strength. Efrem confides in friends and relatives, and plans to flee.

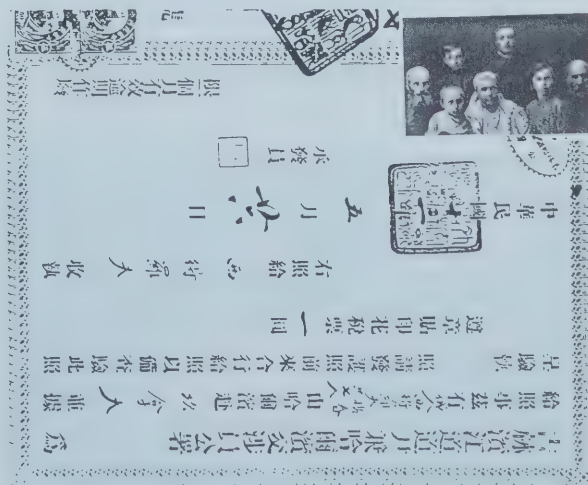
Efrem Kononov and his family, son-in-law Afanasi, his wife Anastasia, sons Ivan, Abraham, Nicholas and daughter Anna, and many others flee east as civil war breaks out in the summer of 1918. The civil war, anarchy, and progroms devastate the country until the 1920 Red Army victory. By this time Efrem Kononov with his family are on their way to China.

At this point, Ivan (my father) takes up the narrative. The Bolshevik influence is felt everywhere and no one can be trusted. It is rumored that if only they can get to Harbin, China, they would be safe. The Chinese frontier is heavily patrolled. The great River Amur forms a long natural boundary. Patrols are everywhere, on foot and in boats. After coming this far there is no turning back.

Furtively, at night, the refugees steal across the river on rafts into China narrowly escaping detection by the border patrols.

Because of the large numbers of Europeans, Russians, and other foreigners who had settled in Harbin, before the Russian Revolution, it was possible to "disappear" into the vast numbers of people in the teeming Chinese city of Harbin. It is rumored that a land known as Canada, beckons, where political and religious freedom exists and where virgin farmlands abound for those who are willing to work the land.

A retired Russian military man known as Colonel Durnavo is organizing families into groups willing to emigrate to Canada, and in 1924 families leave China for Canada, Australia and



Document: Grandfather Afanasi exit paper from China. Rear left to right: Abe, John. Front: Grandfather Afanasi, Nick, grandmother, Anne, great-grandfather Kononov.



Grandfather Afanasi Sidoroff in uniform of the Czar Forces, 1915.

U.S.A. Meanwhile during his stay in Harbin, Ivan meets a young beauty from another Russian refugee family from the area of Tomsk, and Ivan and Efrosinia Chuchalin fall in love. Ivan vows to return for his beloved Efrosinia.

It is spring of 1924 and Vancouver, B.C. looms on the horizon for the many nervous and anxious passengers on the Cunard Steamship approaching the harbour. CANADA!!! a land of HOPE and FREEDOM, but also a land of the unknown. No one in the family speaks English or French. Emotions run from fear to relief to joy for the refugees.

But now what? Were to go? Where to get help?

The refugee families together with their priest hope to find a home where they will be free to live and worship and follow their Old Greek Orthodox faith. Other Russians living in Vancouver who had arrived in Canada some years earlier, tell Grandfather Efrem of homestead land, available in Alberta, east of the Rockies.



R.1 Grandfather Afanasi, Uncle Nick, grandmother Anastasia. R.2 Uncle Abe, Auntie Anne.

Stories abound of the CPR helping refugees to move and settle in Alberta and the other prairie provinces. The families take the railway through the mountains, to Alberta where homesteads are available in the Rimbey, Bluffton and Homeglen areas southwest of Edmonton.

As the families take claims for the homestead the younger children start school in English at the nearest country schoolhouse in Homeglen and Lonesome Pine. There are the inevitable jeers and taunts by the other students as the new pupils struggle to accept and understand their new environment. It is not easy but a stubborn will to succeed is evident and the teacher is most willing to help with home tutoring if and when necessary.

The students get to school any way they can. Walking, on horseback, perhaps skiing in winter, and for some of the more fortunate a horse drawn cutter or light sleigh. Dad's brother Abraham starts schooling in English and gradually he learns that it is not necessary to homestead on CPR land and the settlers may go anywhere and file for homesteads. When Grandfather Efrem learns of this and the information is confirmed by some others, it is decided that "scouts" should be sent North to look for better lands. The land in the Rimbey area is too rocky and rolling for grain farms. Meanwhile Ivan, now a young man in his twenties, goes back to Vancouver to find work to help support the family. Ivan or (John) as he is now called by his fellow workers finds work at Britannia Beach on a water monitor, washing



Wedding John & Efrosinia in Harbin, China 1931.

gravel and sand to be loaded onto barges for shipment to Vancouver.

In 1928, Afanasi and his brother Luka, and Mr. Pohaboff arrive in the Falher area and decide to look around while the other group goes on to the end of steel at Waterhole, now known as Fairview, Alberta. The countryside is flatland and although forested, it looks promising. The men are impressed by the land and return to their families in Homeglen and Bluffton. In the spring of 1929 most of the families again abandon their "homes" for a second time to move North to their final and permanent homes.

Great-Grandfather Efrem and Grandfather Afanasi Sidorovich claim on homesteads on NW 21-75-21 W5 and NE 21-75-21 W5 respectively in May of 1929. Abraham files for SE 21-75-21 W5 adjacent to his father's quarter. Several years later John buys SW 26-75-21 W5 from a neighbour. This land remains in the family, except for SE 21-75-21 W5, until 1982.



First home in Guy, 1932.

During the summer and fall of 1929 Efrem and Afanasi build their first shelters for the family, a one room "Shack" and an earth covered dwelling space dug into the side of a coulee on a southerly exposed slope. The underground home was about 10 feet square and contained a cot, a wood burning heater, and a crudely made table and chair. There was one small window in the partially exposed wall on the south side, as well as the door. Great-grandfather Efrem spent his first year in this shelter, while about 100 yards away on the level some 20-25 feet away from the edge of the coulee embankment Grandfather Afanasi and his family spent the first winter in the Shack. The few neighbouring families in the area at that time were of French, Polish, Ukrainian and Hungarian background. As none of the other settlers were well established at that time everyone pitched in to help with house building, barn raising, or land clearing. The tall trees were stripped of their branches and cleaned off for logs to build the houses, barns, and other buildings.

While Grandfather was settling on the farm near Guy, The other families that had also moved from the Rimbey area were claiming lands in the Fairview, Gage, Hines Creek areas. Grandfather kept in touch with the others by mail and when possible would go to attend services at the Church. Such a trip usually lasted from a week to two weeks. Grandfather would be taken from the farm to McLennan where he would board the passenger train to Fairview. Having taken in the Church services, he would visit with his brother and the other families and by the time he returned home 10 days to 2 weeks would have passed. Needless to say such trips occurred perhaps two or three times a year. Sometimes when the weather was good the entire family would also go. Those were exciting times for the younger children. The anticipation of a long distance trip to see your Aunts, Uncles and cousins was an emotional high. The greatest thrill was travelling on the train. Of course someone would have to stay home to look after the livestock.

During the winter of 1930-31 John sailed back to China. He stayed in Harbin approximately six months and on February 8th, 1931 married Efrosinia, the sweetheart he had vowed to return for. He returned to Canada alone as he was unable to obtain the necessary papers and could not afford the price of tickets for two. He continued to work in Vancouver and on the prairies in southern Alberta and Saskatchewan during the harvesting season until he had enough money for his wife's passage.

During the winter of 1935 Efrosinia arrived in Canada. At that time Dad was back on the farm and could not meet her at Vancouver. She did not understand any English so some of his Russian acquaintances in Vancouver would meet her, and help her with immigration clearance and then arrange for her passage by train to Falher.

Mother told me how she was given a basket of fruit which she kept on the seat beside her in the coach she was riding in. It had been pre-arranged that all the conductors on that train were to be told that the lady with the fruitbasket was travelling to Falher. This way they knew whom to approach when it was time for changing trains at various points along the way. Eventually the train arrived at Falher where Dad met Mom and brought her to her new home.

A year earlier Dad's younger brother Abraham, Abe as he was known by now, had married Ella Nasedkin, daughter of Peter Nosedkin, one of the families that had come over with Grandfather's group and had settled at Gage, Alberta. Abe and Ella were married Feb. 9, 1934, at Gage. They moved to the homestead Abe had filed for



R.1 Leonard, Walter, grandfather Maurice, grandmother, Gerald, Florence. R.2 Ella & Abe, John (Dad), Nick & Anne holding Betty.

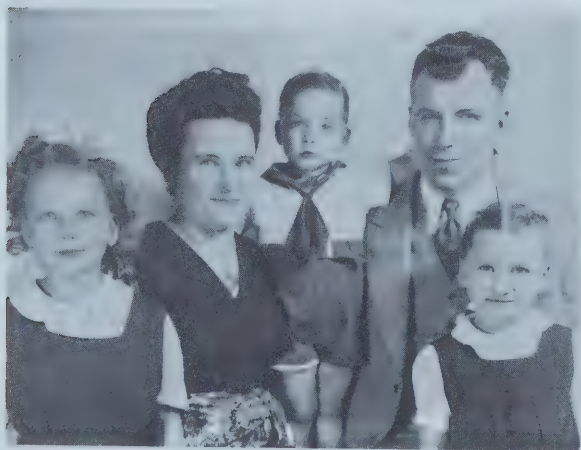
next to his father's on SE 21-75- 21- W5 where their sons Leonard, Walter and Victor were born. Daughter Lydia was born in McLennan Hospital. In 1946 Abe and family moved to Peace River town, where daughter Gaile was born. Abe Sidoroff passed away on June 6th, 1974 and is buried at the Old Creek Orthodox cemetery north of Hines Creek.

By 1932 most of the farm buildings and the family house were completed.

With the help of neighbours Grandfather also built barns for pigs, horses, and cattle, a chicken coop, machine shed, blacksmith shop, and a number of granaries, as well as a root cellar.

Eventually Grandfather bought a tractor on steel wheels. He also bought a threshing machine and a Maxwell touring car.

By the late Thirties most of the farm homes-



Betty, Anne, John, Bill & Kay Todor.

stead had been cleared of trees except for the few low spots and life was somewhat easier.

By 1936 my mother, Efrosinia (now known as Florence), was expecting her first child. The baby boy died shortly after birth. In 1938 my brother Gherman (Maurice) was born in the McLennan hospital.

Social gatherings became more frequent, especially with the Ukrainian speaking settlers among whom were 2 brothers Nick and Bill Todor, who has filed homesteads on NE and SE 20-75-21 W5. Bill Todor courted Anne and on January 22, 1939 Bill and Anne were married. They built their first home on Bill's homestead on SE 20-75-21 W5 and lived there until March of 1945.

During this period two daughters were born to Auntie Anne and Uncle Bill, Elizabeth (Betty) and Kathleen (Kay).

Great Grandfather Efrem died in July of 1939 and is buried on the homestead in a private cemetery. I remember Grandmother vaguely and remember her funeral in 1943. She too, was buried next to her father on the homestead.



Gail, Ella, Abe, Lydia Sidoroff.

During these years in Peace River, three sons were born John, Bill Jr. and Danny.

I, Gerald was born in July 1940, in the farmhouse that Grandfather had built. My memories of my childhood on the farm are happy ones.

My brother Maurice and I started school at the country schoolhouse 1 mile north of the farm known as Edgell School in the fall of 1947. In December 1947 the entire family moved to Peace River. For many years every summer during the school holidays I would return to the farm, while Dad farmed the land. In 1947 Dad bought a new tractor on rubber. It was quite the improvement

over the old tractor on steel wheels. Other machinery was gradually bought to replace the small horse-drawn equipment. Dad stayed on the farm alone during the seeding and harvesting season but would come home to us if weather conditions were such that no work could be done on the fields.



Sidoroff burial plot on family farm. Photo taken 1987.

Nick Sidoroff was married in 1946. At first Nick and wife Helen lived on Bill Todor's farm for some years then lived on Grandfather's farm for a short period before settling down on Abe's homestead. They lived there until late 1959, when they too, moved to a farm just west of Peace River near the Peace River Airport. Nick and Helen raised a family of 10 children. Their children Nick Jr., Gwen, Nellie, Gloria, Nona, Constantine and Alex (Sandy) all lived on the farm near Guy while Anthony, Timothy and Bernadette were born after the family had moved to Peace River. All of their children now live in Edmonton, except for Gwen, who is married and lives in Kelowna, B.C. Nick Sr. eventually moved to Kelowna, B.C. in 1971 where he lived alone for some year before remarrying. Nick passed away in Kelowna on March 22, 1984.

Grandfather Afanasi passed away in Peace River on August 31, 1959 at the age of 83 years.

My mother, Florence was in poor health for many years and passed away in Peace River hospital on June 20, 1979.

Dad (John) passed away September 29, 1985 in Misericordia Hospital, Edmonton, at the age of 83 ½ years. Mother and Dad are buried side by side in the church cemetery just north of Hines Creek. My Grandfather and many other relatives are also buried there.

The children and grandchildren cherish the memories of these simple hardworking pioneers who gave up so much to start anew in a strange land.

MAY WE BE WORTHY OF THEIR SACRIFICES

SIMONEAU, JEAN

par Gilberte Lemay

Jean Simoneau est venu ici dès le début de la paroisse en 1928. Il venait de la province de Québec pour tenter de faire fortune dans l'Ouest Canadien. Sa femme était restée là-bas. Il prit le "homestead" S.E. 28-76-20 dans une éclaircie qu'on appelait le grand brûlé, voisin de M. et Mme Adolphe Proulx.

Comme il était un cousin de Mme Aurèle Lambert il fréquentait souvent la famille Lambert. Parfois il emmenait avec lui ses bons voisins, M. et Mme Proulx. Jean se disait "laveur d'or". Il organisa une expédition avec ses amis Raoul Lambert et Olivier Thibeault à la rivière Little Smoky. Inutile de dire que personne n'a trouvé fortune.

Après quelques années, voyant que la fortune ne pouvait s'accumuler aussi vite qu'il l'avait espéré, il décida de retourner dans l'Est avec sa famille.

* * *

Jean Simoneau came here at the onset of the parish in 1928. He came from the province of Quebec to try to become rich in western Canada. His wife had stayed behind. He took a homestead in a clearing where a forest fire had passed, neighboring Mr. and Mrs. Adolphe Proulx.

As he was Mrs. Lambert's cousin he would visit the Lambert family often. Sometimes he would bring along his good neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Proulx. Jean called himself a "gold digger". He organized an expedition with his friends Raoul Lambert and Olivier Thibeault at the Little Smoky. Needless to say nobody struck it rich.

After a few years, seeing that fortune would not come as fast as he hoped, he decided to return east with his family.

SNIEZEK, LEO (1M) & MARTEL, YVONNE THIBAUT, LIONEL (2M)

by Yvonne

During the years that I was married to Leo we lived in various places. Mostly on the farm but winter months had us moving to lumber industries for work. These places consisted of Jous-sard, Stewart Lake, Slave Lake, Faust, or anywhere where there was work available. In these lumber camps, we lived in shacks provided for us. Some of them were no bigger than my master bedroom today. We would pack up right after harvest and spring time would have us returning to the farm for seeding. We eventually built ourselves a small house on the same quarter as Mr. and Mrs. M. Sniezek. It was not very big but



Leo Sniezek & Guy Tokarz.

it was called home. Our house was moved when we sold the farm and Jules Aubin is now using it as a garage. This went on till 1969 when Mr. M. Sniezek (Leo's father) and Leo both decided it was time to sell the farm. It was not big enough to keep two families going. When we sold, we bought a house-trailer and moved to Chetwynd to work full time at the sawmill there. Right after Christmas, Leo saw an ad in the paper for a janitor for the Georges P. Vanier School in Donnelly and decided he wanted to come back closer to home. I actually laughed at him. I didn't think he had a chance. But in March we were called for an interview in High Prairie and soon after that he got the position as janitor for the G. P. Vanier school. After we saw the school we had second thoughts but it was too late. We were committed for four years. This position started on April 1, 1970.

In July of 1971, Leo had open heart surgery and was well for almost two years. In February of 1973 he became ill and was sent to Edmonton where he passed away only ten days later. I was left with three children and a janitor contract to finish. This I did with a lot of help from the G.P.V. staff.

In April of the same year, Sister Therese Laurion convinced me to go back to school and take my business courses. This I did during the course



R.1 Léona Sniezek Thompson, Yvonne Thibault. R.2 Louis, Raymond Sniezek, Lionel Thibault.

of the next year. On March 30, 1974 I married Lionel Thibault, a guy I knew since I was three years old.

We still live in Donnelly in the same place but now we have a new home we built ourselves. My daughter, Leona and her family live in Rocky Mountain House, my son Louis and his family live in Girouxville, and my youngest son, Raymond is also living in Donnelly.

Leo Sniezek: n.26-10-1934 m.07-10-1958 d.04-03-1973

Yvonne Martel: n.18-09-1941

CHILDREN:

1. Leona: n.06-01-1961 m.23-09-1979
Ralph Thomsen: n.22-11-1956
 - a) Michael: n.22-12-1979
 - b) James: n.10-10-1981
 - c) Kenneth: n.06-10-1984
 - d) Christina: n.15-12-1986
2. Louis: n.08-09-1962 m.23-09-1980
Suzanne Couturier: n.30-11-1962
 - a) Pamela: n.05-12-1981
 - b) Mitchel: n.10-05-1984
 - c) Valerie: n.30-01-1986
3. Raymond: n.27-09-1967

* * *

Après notre mariage en 1958 Léo et moi avons vécu à la ferme l'été et l'hiver venus, nous partions pour les chantiers de bois.

Eventuellement, nous construisions une maison sur la même ferme où vivaient les parents de Léo. La maison n'était pas bien grande, mais c'était chez-nous. En 1969 Léo et

son père vendirent la ferme. Elle ne suffusait pas à la survie de deux familles. Nous sommes ensuite allés vivre à Chetwynd, C.B., où nous vivions dans une roulotte et où il y avait du travail à plein-temps dans un moulin à scie.

Après Noël, Léo décida de s'en revenir plus près de chez-lui, et fut employé comme concierge à l'école G.P. Vanier à Donnelly; le premier avril 1970, le contrat devait durer quatre ans.

En juin 1970 Léo dut subir une intervention chirurgicale au coeur. Pendant deux ans sa santé était bonne. En février 1973 il tomba malade, fut transporté d'urgence à Edmonton où il mourut dix jours plus tard. J'avais trois enfants et j'ai dû continuer de travailler à l'école comme concierge jusqu'à la fin du contrat. Le personnel de l'école me prêta main forte.

En avril Soeur Thérèse Laurion me conseilla de poursuivre mes études et de suivre un cours commercial; ce que je fis pendant un an. Le 30 mars 1974, j'épousai Lionel Thibault que je connaissais depuis l'âge de trois ans.

Nous demeurons toujours à Donnelly dans une toute nouvelle maison que nous avons construite.

SNIEZEK, MICHAEL & CHAREST, ROSE

by Rose Sniezek

Michael Sniezek came to Canada from Wola, Jasienicka Lwow, Poland, to find work and make himself a home. First he stopped in France where he worked in the mines for two years. He arrived in Guy in 1928. He soon found work for the railways – work he kept for quite a while. His first homestead was in Eaglesham. As he did not like it there, he came to Guy. On Andrew Dlugosz's advice he took homestead NW 36-75-21-W5.

This land was solid forest then. He gradually opened it with an ax. Michael's motto was: "Do not look ahead, at what has to be done; be steady at work and soon it's all done."

In 1932 he had ten acres cleared, had built himself a house and was still working on the railroad. So he decided it was time to be married. His choice was Rose Charest, daughter of John Charest and Adélaïde Gagnon. They were the first couple to be married in the new St. Guy Church which was not yet completed; in fact a special permission was granted for the marriage ceremony to take place as the church had not yet been blessed.

Their son, Leo, was born in 1934 and two years later their house burnt. A new 20'x24' house was soon erected as the neighbors were all



Rose & Mike Sniezek & Clara Anne Charest.

there to help. It was the dirty thirties and money was scarce; so on the advice of his sister, Michael took his family to Val d'Or, P.Q. The wages were better there surface mining for gold. Rose found work too. As they were staying with Michael's sister, she became Leo's baby sitter. However it wasn't home for them. Therefore they were back in Guy thirteen months later. In 1941 they added two rooms to their house, made a new foundation and built a cistern. This was a great improvement. He also bought his neighbor, Stanley Wojsecki's land. He then cultivated a half section. They lived in Guy until they sold to Guy Tokarz. They then moved to High Prairie where they lived for ten years at which time they sold their house there and came to live at the Villa Beauséjour in Falher. Michael died there June 7, 1975. He was predeceased by two infants – one buried in Guy and the other in Val d'Or, P.Q. Michael Sniezek: n. 1899 in Poland m.28-03-1932 d.07-06-1975

Rose Charest: n.09-11-1912 in New Sarepta.

CHILDREN:

1- Leo: n. 26-10-1934 in Guy m.07-10-1958 d.04-03-1973

Yvonne Martel: n. 18-09-1941

They had three children.

Rose was remarried to Hervé Bellerive, November 13, 1976. The first marriage to take place in the Villa Beauséjour. They had met at the



Mike, Rose and three grandchildren: Raymond, Leona & Louis.

Villa Beauséjour in Falher. Hervé died November 20, 1980. Rose still lives in the Villa Beauséjour.

* * *

Michael est venu au Canada de la Pologne afin de se trouver du travail et de se faire un chez-lui. Il arriva à Guy en 1928. Suivant le conseil d'Andrew Dlugosz il appliqua pour un "homestead" NW36-75-21-W5. Il défricha la forêt sur ce terrain à la hache. Il travailla sur le chemin de fer pendant plusieurs années pour gagner de l'argent.

En 1932 il avait dix acres de terrain en culture et il s'était bâti une maison. Il épousa Rose Charest, fille de John Charest et d'Adélaïde Gagnon. Ce fut le premier couple marié dans la nouvelle église St-Guy. Ils durent obtenir une permission spéciale car l'église, qui n'était pas complétée, n'avait pas encore été bénite.

En 1936 leur maison fut détruite par le feu. Avec l'aide de ses voisins, une nouvelle demeure de 20' X 24' fut érigée. L'argent étant rare, Michael déménagea sa famille à Val D'or, P.Q. où il travailla dans les mines d'or. Mais treize mois plus tard, ils revinrent à Guy. En 1941 ils ajoutèrent deux chambres à leur maison ainsi qu'une citerne pour l'eau.

Il acheta le terrain de Stanley Wojescki, ce qui lui donna une demi-section. Après avoir

vendu à Guy Tokarz, ils allèrent demeurer à High Prairie pendant dix années. Ils vendirent alors leur maison pour aller demeurer à la Villa Beauséjour à Falher.

Michael est mort le 7 juin 1975. Rose s'est remariée à Hervé Bellerive le 13 novembre 1976, le premier mariage célébré dans la Villa Beauséjour.

SOUCY, IRENEE & JEAN, MARIE ANNA

par Françoise Dechief

M. et Mme Irénée Soucy sont venus dans l'Ouest de Trois-Pistoles, P.Q., la place natale de Mme Soucy. M. Soucy avait passé quelques années aux Etats-Unis, où on l'avait surnommé Henry.

Avec leurs trois plus jeunes enfants, Edgar, Irénée (René) et Paul-Émile ils vinrent s'installer à Guy vers 1943. Leur première demeure fut chez M. Léon Pelletier; ils passèrent ensuite quelques mois à Falher.

Le printemps venu, ils achetèrent le terrain de M. Alphonse Brochu, NW 31-75-20-W5. Il y avait là une maison, où ils demeurèrent pendant plusieurs années. Comme la plupart du monde des alentours, ils allaient au chantier l'hiver pour couper et charroyer le bois avec leurs chevaux.

Edgar acquit plus tard le terrain NE 35-75-21-W5.

Vers l'année 1954, M. Soucy eut une hémorragie cérébrale et passa le reste de sa vie paralysé du côté droit. Mme Soucy prit soin de son mari pendant quelques années. Quand le malade demanda trop de soins il dut être transféré à l'hôpital St-Joseph à Edmonton. Mme Soucy est décédée le 01-02-1965 et M. Soucy le 11-09-1975. Ils sont inhumés au cimetière de Guy.

* * *

From Trois Pistoles, P.Q. Mr. and Mrs. Soucy and their three children, Edgar, Irénée (René) and Paul-Émile came to settle in Guy around 1943. Their first residence was at Léon Pelletier's. They then spent a few months in Falher.

Come spring they bought Mr. Alphonse Brochu's land. There was a house on this land where they stayed for a number of years. As most other people they went to lumber camps in winter to cut and haul logs with horses.

Later on, Edgar took a quarter of land.

Around 1954, Mr Soucy had a brain hemorrhage and his right side was paralysed for life. Mrs. Soucy took care of her husband during many years. When he needed more care, he had

to be transferred to St-Joseph Hospital in Edmonton.

SOUCY, RENE & BOUILLY, MADELEINE

par Madeleine

Le docteur Léonce Bouilly, sa femme et leurs trois enfants, Madeleine, Pierre et Jean, après avoir lu plusieurs articles sur le Canada, dont les livres Maria Chapdelaine, et les Arpents Verts décident de quitter leur pays natal, la France, pour venir s'installer au Canada.

Ils prennent le bateau Ausonia de la compagnie Cunard Lines au Havre, le 10 décembre 1934; ils arrivent à Halifax après une semaine de mauvais temps, tempêtes, brouillard et glaces flottantes.

Comme ils aperçoivent les côtes du Canada, une tempête de neige s'abat sur le pont du bateau, à la grande joie des petits et des grands qui voyaient tant de neige pour la première fois. Vite des balles de neige se forment et un combat s'ensuit.

Nous sommes demeurés chez des amis Français pour un an à la Baie des Chaleurs, à New Carlisle. Ensuite en route pour Montréal et Pont Viau au nord de Montréal où naît un autre garçon, Michel, un gros Canadien. Toute la famille en est fière; la famille rêve qu'il prendra la relève, qu'il pratiquera la médecine comme son père.

En 1943 après avoir rencontré un prêtre colonisateur à Montréal, mon père décide de venir dans l'Ouest avec l'intention de prendre des terres pour son fils aîné, Pierre, qui était étudiant au collège d'agriculture à St-Hyacinthe dans la province de Québec. Enthousiaste à la vue du pays, mon père décide d'acheter du terrain à Guy, Alberta. L'année suivante son fils, Pierre, vient semer et récolter ces terres. Pendant quelques années, à tous les automnes après les travaux de la ferme terminés, Pierre retourne chez ses parents pour continuer ses études au collège.

En 1947 le Dr. Bouilly envoie sa fille Madeleine à Guy aider son frère; lui faire la cuisine, aider sur la terre, accomplir de menus travaux. Je pars de Montréal le lundi de Pâques sur le train et arrive à Donnelly. Là m'attendait l'homme à tout faire de la paroisse de Guy, M. Aurèle Lambert, celui-ci transportait le courrier, faisait les commissions pour un peu tout le monde. Dans ce temps-là, il n'y avait pas de voiture automobile, seul un cheval avec un wagon; des chemins il n'y en avait pas ou presque pas. Donc on part dans la boue, plutôt le "gumbo"; à des endroits l'eau touchait presque le fond du wagon. Après plusieurs heures nous

arrivons chez mon frère, Pierre, qui demeurait à 10 milles au sud de Donnelly.

La même année, le 17 novembre 1947 je me mariais avec René Soucy, fils de Irénée et d'Anna Soucy qui eux aussi étaient venus s'installer sur une terre à 1/2 mille du village de Guy qui alors comprenait une église, un couvent avec des religieuses, le magasin général avec le bureau de poste et une ou deux maisons.

La vie continue avec ses hauts et ses bas. Un garçon naît en 1948, Jacques, ensuite un autre garçon Jean, deux filles Micheline et Marguerite, deux autres garçons Robert et Claude et la dernière fille, Denise. Nous sommes nous aussi installés sur des terres et en plus nous avons des abeilles.

Lorsque les deux plus vieux, Jacques et Jean, avaient trois et deux ans, je les emmenais avec moi dans l'atelier où je travaillais à remplir des boîtes d'une livre de miel; avec deux jeunes ce n'était pas un cadeau. Ils avaient le nez fourré partout, se faisaient piquer par les abeilles. Un jour Jacques tomba dans un chaudière pleine de miel, quelques jours plus tard, Jean à son tour aussi goûte au miel. Vous imaginez-vous les voir, ils en avaient plein les cheveux; ils dégoûtaient de partout, il y avait du miel partout excepté dans mes petites boîtes d'une livre.

Un autre jour j'allais mettre des hausses vides dans un rucher et je ramenaï des hausses pleines de miel à l'atelier pour l'extraction. Pas question de camion dans ce temps-là; nous avions un cheval et un petit buggy avec en arrière une petite plate-forme pour mettre du bagage. Bon, nous partons, tout d'un coup une nuée d'abeilles sort d'une hausse pleine, oubliée là, et attaque la jument qui part en peur, pas moyen de la retenir! Jacques et Jean étaient avec moi, je les tenais d'une main et de l'autre les guides. Vous dire combien nous avons eu de piqûres d'abeilles ce jour-là, il y en avait trop pour les compter; les enfants criaient, une chance, car leurs cris ont été entendus et quelqu'un a réussi à maîtriser le cheval.

Quarante ans plus tard je suis toujours sur la ferme avec le plus jeune des garçons, Claude, qui fait les semences et les récoltes.

René Soucy: n. 12-02-1921

m. 17-11-1947

Madeleine Bouilly: n. 10-08-1922

Enfants:

1) Jacques: n. 27-07-1948

m. 21-11-1969

Linda Shatz:

a) Anthony

b) Amanda

Ils demeurent sur un acrage à Sangudo, AB. Jac-

ques travaille pour le Department of Transport.

2) Jean: n. 05-07-1949

m. 12-09-1970

Lise Bouchard

a) Dino

b) Tina

Ils demeurent à Grande Prairie, AB et Jean travaille pour Procter & Gamble Cellulose Ltd.

3) Micheline: n. 12-02-1952 divorcée

a) Corinne

Elle demeure à Edmonton, AB et est secrétaire.

4) Marguerite: n. 31-07-1954

Jim Patrick:

Ils demeurent à St. Albert, AB et sont propriétaires d'un Entrepot de bouteilles.

5) Robert: n. 31-12-1958

m. 05-07-1980

Gisèle Girard:

a) Chantale

Ils demeurent à Athabasca, AB. Robert est gérant pour Alberta Liquor Board.

6) Claude: n. 30-04-1961

Claude est fermier à Guy.

7) Denise: n. 16-11-1962 m. 05-07-1980

Gilbert Girard

a) Ginette

b) Marc

Ils demeurent à Guy et Gilbert travaille à Falher.

* * *

Doctor Léonce Bouilly, his wife and their three children left their native France to come and settle in Canada. They left Le Havre on December 10, 1934 and arrived a week later at Halifax.

We stayed with French friends at Chaleur Bay for one year and on to Montréal and Pont Viau where another boy, Michel, was born.

In 1943, after having met a colonizing priest in Montréal, my father decides to come west to take up land for his oldest son Pierre. Enthused by the sight of the country my father decides to buy land at Guy, Alberta. The next year Pierre comes to seed and harvest and then returns to St-Hyacinthe to further his education at the agricultural college.

In 1947, Dr. Bouilly sends his daughter to help out her brother, cook and help around the farm.

I leave Montréal Easter Monday on the train and arrive in Donnelly where Mr. Aurèle Lambert was expecting me. He used to bring the mail and do errands for everyone by horse and wagon. After a few hours we arrived at my brother's. At the time of my marriage with René Soucy Guy consisted of a church, a convent with nuns, the

general store with Post Office and one or two houses. We settled down and raised a family. We also kept some bees which brought a few exciting events.

Forty years later I am still on the farm with our youngest son, Claude.

ST-AMAND, ROMUALD (1m) & MENCKE, GILBERTE (2m) TREMBLAY, EDGAR (3m) SASSEVILLE, LUCIEN

par Gilberte

Romuald St-Amand né de Hermel St-Amand et Alice Saindon, cultivateurs, est natif de St-Moïse, Cté Matapédia en Gaspésie où il a grandi. Il était le onzième d'une famille de quinze enfants, dont dix vivants. A treize ans il était déjà dans les chantiers comme assistant-cuisinier. Quand il a été assez fort il a appris le métier de bûcheron. Suivant les conseils d'un prêtre de sa paroisse qui encourageait les jeunes de sa région à aller s'établir dans l'Ouest, Romuald décida de partir au printemps de 1950. Il arriva à Donnelly sur le train avec



R.1 Yvonne, Valérie. R.2 François, Cécile, Lionel. R.3 Romuald, Michel, Gilberte St-Amand.

plusieurs jeunes comme lui; mais avant de partir du Québec, il dut promettre à sa mère de revenir à l'automne. Il arriva à Donnelly chez M. Donat Cloutier où il demeura en attendant de trouver de l'ouvrage; il faisait la besogne pour sa pension. C'est alors que le Père Marsan lui trouva du travail chez un fermier, c'était la semaine de Pâques 1950. Il le présenta à la famille Gustave Mencke, où il travailla aux semences du printemps. Les travaux de la ferme

terminés il travailla tout l'été à la construction du Collège Notre Dame de la Paix à Falher.

L'automne venu il retourna travailler chez M. Mencke pour les travaux de récoltes.

Il décida de passer l'hiver et d'aller bûcher chez les Parks Bros à Whitemud. Parce que son cœur était déjà en Alberta, il oublia la promesse faite à sa mère. L'automne suivant, le 5 novembre 1951, il épousa Gilberte Mencke, fille cadette de M. et Mme Gustave Mencke.

Il prit un "homestead" NE 14-76-22-W5, au nord est de Guy où il s'installa. Il fit la culture l'été et bûcha l'hiver chez Parks Bros. Avec beaucoup de temps et de travail il agrandit sa ferme de trois autres quarts de terre E 1/2-14-76-22-5M et NE 15-76-22-5M et de huit cents acres de pâturage et de cent têtes de bétail. En 1969 la maison brûla et alors on se construisit sur le NE 15-76-22.

Romuald et Gilberte élevèrent six enfants; trois filles et trois garçons. Les enfants ont tous commencé leurs études à l'école de Guy, pour ensuite continuer à l'école Routhier de Falher. Cécile et Valérie sont devenues garde-malades, Yvonne est partie vers la ville, Michel fréquenta le Collège de Fairview, François entreprit la culture de la ferme et Léonel prit, au Collège de Fairview, un cours pour faire l'évaluation des terres.



Edgar et Gilberte Tremblay.

Romuald et Gilberte ont été chauffeurs d'autobus scolaire pendant quatorze ans pour la High Prairie School Division, et aussi pour l'école Routhier de Falher.

Romuald a laissé un héritage de courage à ses enfants. Il était fier d'eux. Il a laissé une belle famille en souvenir de lui.

Après avoir travaillé tout l'hiver pour la compagnie Esso dans le nord à Tuktoyaktuk, T.N.O., sur la mer de Beaufort à construire des îles pour les derricks d'huile, Romuald tomba malade au printemps 1975. Il avait eu bien des interventions chirurgicales avant mais cette fois il ne s'en remit pas.

Après quelques mois de maladie Romuald est décédé le 9 juillet 1975 chez lui à la ferme familiale qu'il avait tellement aimé.

Romuald St-Amand: n. 05-06-1928 m. 05-11-1951 d. 09-07-1975

Gilberte Mencke: n. 12-06-1934 mariés à l'église Ste-Anne de Falher.

ENFANTS:

1- Cécile: n. 05-03-1953 m. 16-06-1973 à Guy

Jules Aubin: n. 10-03-1950
(voir Aubin, Jules)

2- Valérie: n. 25-11-1954 m. 30-08-1975 Guy

Gilles Gagnon:

a) Christine: n. 24-12-1976

b) Rémi: n. 24-07-1978

c) Rachel: n. 07-07-1980

d) Angèle: n. 17-12-1981

e) Caroline: n. 18-06-1984

Ils demeurent à McLennan

3- Yvonne: n. 29-11-1955 m. 17-07-1976 à Guy

Ray Nagel: n.

a) Christopher: n. 01-08-1977

b) Andrew: n. 10-09-1980

c) Tiffany: n. 28-06-1982

Ils demeurent à Edmonton

4- Michel: n. 11-06-1957 m. 02-07-1982

Kimberley Jobanson: n.

a) Sheldy: n. 14-12-1976

b) Robin: n. 02-05-1984

Ils demeurent à Vancouver

5- François: n. 05-11-1958 m. 09-08-1980 à Edmonton

Louise Faucher: n. 14-05-1960

a) Paul: n. 10-09-1983

b) Natalie: 25-09-1986

Ils demeurent à Guy

6- Léonel: n. 29-04-1960 m. 30-07-1981

Joan Singer

Ils demeurent à Victoria, B.C.

Deuxième mariage.

Gilberte St-Amand continua à cultiver la ferme avec ses fils pendant deux ans.

Au printemps de 1977, en mai, le destin fit qu'elle rencontra Edgar Tremblay, né le 14 août 1928 à St-Edmond, Lac St-Jean, P.Q. Il était venu pour travailler dans l'Ouest et se rapprocher de sa soeur Marie Doyle de Girouxville.

Drôle de coïncidence, M. Doyle, beau-frère d'Edgar, avait servi de Témoin à Romuald à son mariage.

Gilberte se remarie le 23 décembre 1977 à Edgar, fils de cultivateur aussi. Ses parents étaient propriétaires d'une ferme laitière. Il était menuisier et rembourreur. Il cultiva la ferme avec Gilberte jusqu'en 1981 quand la ferme fut vendue à François St-Amand.

Edgar et Gilberte se sont établis à Guy où ils ont commencé un très bon commerce de rembourrage.

Mais le destin a été changé encore. Dieu décida de venir chercher Edgar. Sa maladie ne dura que deux semaines. Le 15 septembre 1984 Edgar ferma les yeux pour le grand repos.

Encore toute seule et n'ayant plus d'enfants à la maison, elle continua le commerce de rembourrage. Ça allait très bien, car elle avait appris son métier d'un bon maître. Troisième mariage.

Gilberte St-Amand-Tremblay, continua le rembourrage des meubles et d'autos, pendant deux ans, mais sa santé l'obligea à ralentir.

Le destin voulut qu'elle rencontre un autre compagnon. En mars 1986 elle fit la connaissance de Lucien Sasseville, qui était veuf après un deuxième mariage. La vie avait été dure pour lui aussi. Le mariage eut lieu le 19 juillet 1986. Le couple demeure à Jean Côté.

Lucien Sasseville est né le 13 décembre 1926 à Desbiens, Lac St-Jean, P.Q. Il est le père de sept enfants: Camille, Germain, Lise, Réal, Anne, Michelle et Céline et grand-père de quinze petits-enfants.

* * *

Born in Matapédia, Gaspé Peninsula. At thirteen Romuald was already assistant-cook in lumber camps. Once strong enough he became a woodcutter. Following the advice of a priest who was encouraging the youth of the region to come out west, Romuald decided to leave in the spring of 1950. He arrived in Donnelly on the train with other young people like himself. He went to stay at Mr. Donat Cloutier's while waiting for a job; he would do chores for his room and board. It is then that Father Marsan found him a job at a farm during Easter week of 1950. He introduced him to the Gustave Mencke family where he worked at seeding in the spring.

Once that task done, he worked all summer at the construction of College Notre Dame de la Paix in Falher.

When autumn arrived he went back to Mr. Mencke's for fall work. He decided to stay in

winter and to cut timber for Parks Bros. at Whitemud. The next fall he married Gilberte Mencke.

He took a homestead north east of Guy and settled down. He farmed in summer and cut timber for Parks Bros. in winter.

With time and a great deal of work, he added three other quarters to his farm and eight hundred acres of pasture and one hundred heads of livestock. In 1969 the house burned down and we built on the NE 15-76-22.

Romuald and Gilberte raised six children, three girls and three boys. The children all started school in Guy to continue at Routhier school in Falher. Cécile and Valérie became nurses. Yvonne has gone to the city, Michel went to Fairview college, François took on the farm and Léonel took a land valuation course in Fairview.

Romuald and Gilberte were school bus drivers for fourteen years for High Prairie School Division and also for Routhier school in Falher.

After having worked all winter for Esso Company in the north of Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T. he became ill in the spring of 1975. After but a few months of illness he died in July 9, 1975 on the home farm which he loved so dearly.

SECOND MARRIAGE.

Gilberte St-Amand continued to farm with her sons for two years.

In the spring of 1977 in May, she met Edgar Tremblay who had come to work in the west to be close to his sister Marie Doyle of Girouxville. Gilberte remarried December 23, 1977. Edgar was a carpenter and upholsterer. He farmed with Gilberte until 1981 when the farm was sold to François St-Amand.

Edgar and Gilberte moved to Guy where they started a successful business of upholstery. Destiny was to strike again. Edgar was sick but for two weeks then passed away.

Alone again and having no children at home, she continued the upholstery business.

THIRD MARRIAGE.

Gilberte St-Amand-Tremblay continued to upholster furniture and car seats for another two years but her health slowed her down.

Destiny willed that she meet another companion. In March 1986 she met Lucien Sasseville who was a widower after a second marriage. The wedding took place July 19, 1986. The couple lives in Jean Côté.

ST. MARTIN, ANTOINE

by Bud Caron

Antoine St. Martin was born in Sorel, P.Q. in approximately 1893. He grew up to be a trapper and lumberjack in the Abitibi area of Quebec and



Antoine St-Martin, Louis-Philippe de Guise, un neveu.

around Hearst, Ontario. He was working for a large company in Northern Ontario as a bush foreman when he decided to venture to the Peace Country and get one of the ten dollar parcels of land offered by the government he arrived in Falher in 1930. He homesteaded in the Whitemud area. Shortly after his arrival, he exchanged quarters with François Cantin whose land was fifteen miles south of Falher. (NE-28-75-21-W5) Later he bought another quarter of land (NW-28-75-21-W5) next to his from the Hudson Bay Company. Being a lumberjack at heart, he was always involved with saw mills during the many winters that followed.

Antoine remained a bachelor until he died. He also never really mastered the English language as well as he would have liked to. Visitors were always welcome, especially if they brought some form of spirits with them.

Antoine always had good advice, and sometimes candy for the neighbor's children when we would visit him. I'll always remember the day when I was about eleven or twelve years old: Mr. St. Martin figured I should be old enough to be introduced to the snuff box. That was my first and last experience with snuff.

When he no longer could farm on his own, he sold his half section to Minarovich's in 1966 and moved back to Sorel after a brief stay in Falher. There he stayed with a niece (Mrs. Anna Plante) and was also close to a remaining brother.

During the later years he returned to Falher several times for short visits but always returned to Sorel where he passed away early in the year 1971.

* * *

Antoine est né à Sorel, P.Q. en 1893. Il devint un trappeur et un bûcheron en Abitibi, P.Q. et

dans le nord de l'Ontario. Il entendit parler de terres, "homestead", qu'on pouvait avoir pour dix dollars dans la région de Rivière-la-Paix.

Il arriva à Falher en 1930 et il prit un terrain à Whitemud Creek. Ensuite, il échangea ce terrain avec celui de François Cantin NE-75-21-W5 à quinze milles au sud de Falher. Il acheta de la Baie d'Hudson NO-28-75-21-W5 le terrain voisin du sien.

En 1966, il vendit sa demi-section à la famille Minarovich et retourna à Sorel.

Il revint plusieurs fois à Falher en visite. Il est mort à Sorel en 1971.

ST. PIERRE, ARTHUR

by Françoise Dechief

A veteran from WW1 with the U.S. Army, Mr. St. Pierre came to Ballater from Butte, Montana. He first filed on SW 30-76-21-W5 in 1920. Later, he filed on SW 01-76-22-W5 which is situated in the river banks. From there he ran different operations such as selling ice in winter and selling produce in the summertime, especially potatoes. This he did with three other men: Mr. Rivard who used to be a well-digger; Mr. Lacombe, a distant relative of Father Lacombe, who came from the Klondike and rolled the brim of his hat; and a Mr. Lambert who used to be a cook in the Canadian Army during WW1. This land is now known as the Five Star Ranch.

Arthur also saw to the operation of the ferry for many years with the help of his brother Edgar. Many years ago, he left this region to reside in High Prairie.

* * *

Après la première guerre mondiale en 1920 Arthur St. Pierre, un vétéran de l'armée américaine, quitta Butte, Montana et vint s'établir à Ballater où il prit un "homestead". Un peu plus tard il prit un autre "homestead" près de la rivière. Il gagnait sa vie, vendant de la glace en hiver, et des légumes, surtout des patates, en été. Il travaillait avec trois autres hommes: M. Rivard, un puisatier, M. Lacombe, un parent lointain du Père Lacombe, qui venait du Klondike et qui relevait le bord de son chapeau, et un M. Lambert qui avait été cuisinier dans l'armée canadienne à la première guerre mondiale. Ce coin de terre est connu sous le nom de "Five Star Ranch".

Aidé de son frère Edgar, Arthur s'occupait du fonctionnement du traversier pendant plusieurs années. Il y a un bon nombre d'années il quitta cette région pour aller habiter à High Prairie.

ST. PIERRE, EDGAR

by Françoise Dechief

Mr. St. Pierre filed on NE 19-76-21-W5 in 1920. He came from the coppermines of Butte, Montana, but was originally from Quebec. He



Edgar St-Pierre in front of Ferryman's shack with Albert Cloutier.

patented his land while staying with his brother. Later, he moved to the flat by the river again with his brother and helped operate the ferry.

* * *

Edgar St. Pierre prit un "homestead" en 1920. Il arrivait des mines de cuivre à Butte au Montana, mais il était né au Québec. Il défricha sa terre, alors qu'il vivait avec son frère. Plus tard il s'en alla vivre sur le terrain plat près de la rivière, toujours avec son frère. Il l'aida à faire fonctionner le traversier.

STENHOUSE, ROBERT & CHABOT, MARGUERITE

by Marguerite

I, Marguerite, was born July 6th 1932, on the family farm where I am now living. My father, Herve Chabot, came from Rhode Island, U.S.A., my mother Aurore Rondeau was born in Morinville, AB. I married Robert Stenhouse from Manning, Alberta in 1957. We had six children, five boys and one girl.

Now I'll tell how we got to live in Guy, AB. Our house burnt down in 1968, while we were visiting my husband's sister in Darwell, AB. We did not save anything but the clothes we had brought with us for the three day visit. The children were all small. We had no money to build a house. With our six children we had to find a place to live.

We stayed at my brother, Donald Chabot's for four days then found an old house for rent two miles east of Donnelly. We lived there for one and a half years. Then the basement caved in



R.1 Bob & Marguerite. R.2 Aubrey, Lester, Wayne, Terry Lynn, Darrel, Dale.

so we had to move again. This time we moved two miles north of Donnelly corner and half a mile east. We stayed there three years. The fellow we were renting from came and said he wanted the house for his sister's family as they had no home. So we were on the move again. Bob knew this Mr. Brulotte from Guy. He told Bob he'd rent us his house on the farm so that is how we got to live in Guy. I shall never feel sorry we moved there. I really loved living there. We met a lot of nice people. Everyone was good to us; the children loved it. Darrel, Wayne and Terry Lynn went to school in Guy. Dale and Aubrey were going to Donnelly High School.

Lester was out of school when we moved to Guy. We lived there for seven years. I am happy to be back home, but the people in Guy will always be my friends. The house was small but it was often full of people. We were very happy there.

Robert Stenhouse: n.12-06-1930 m.03-05-1957
Marguerite Chabot: n.06-07-1932

CHILDREN:

1. Lester: n.01-08-1958 m.07-07-1979
Linda Nadeau: n.10-10-1959
 - a) Donna Lee: n.12-10-1979
 - b) Robert Jr.: n.08-06-1983
2. Aubrey: n.19-10-1959
Suzette Burdock from Dawson Creek, B.C.
3. Dale: n.16-02-1961
4. Darrel: n.02-06-1962
5. Wayne: n.28-06-1964
6. Terry-Lynn: n.18-07-1966 m.17-08-1985
Daniel Audet: n.28-05-1957
 - a) August: n.05-02-1986
 - b) Danielle: n.11-04-1987

* * *

Robert, de Manning, Alberta, maria Marguerite Chabot en 1957. De leur mariage naquirent six enfants. En 1968, un feu détruisit leur maison ainsi que tout le contenu. Seulement, les vêtements qui les accompagnaient en voyage, furent sauvés.

Il fallut donc, qu'ils résident ici et là n'ayant pas les moyens de rebâtir une maison. Après quatre années à Donnelly, M. Brulotte leur offrit sa maison, sur la ferme à Guy. Ils furent heureux de résider là pendant sept ans.

Ils sont maintenant retournés sur leur ferme au nord de Donnelly et gardent un bon souvenir de leur séjour à Guy.

TALLY, JOHN & LAMBERT, MARIE 2m. **PHILIPPE PITRE**

par Marie Lambert Pitre

Marie Sharon Lambert, née le 23 janvier 1946 à l'hôpital Miséricorde d'Edmonton fut adoptée par M. et Mme. Maurice Lambert le 14 août 1947. Elle reçut son éducation à l'école Langlois. Pendant ses premières années scolaires elle pensionna au couvent Notre Dame de Fatima de Guy. Après la douzième année, elle poursuivit un cours d'assistante infirmière à Edmonton. Elle fut employée à l'hôpital de High Prairie, Peace River et présentement à l'hôpital Général de Valleyview.



Joanne, Dwayne, John Tally & Marie.

Le 17 décembre 1966 Marie fut marié à John Louis Tally à Our Lady of the Peace, l'église catholique de Peace River, Alberta. Ils eurent deux enfants, Dwayne John & Joanne Marie. Pendant plusieurs années ils n'eurent pas de résidence permanente parce que John était employé pour Alta. Government Bridge Branch et ils déménageaient où se trouvait l'emploi. En 1971 ils achetèrent un quart de section (NE ¼ 32-74-21-5) qui appartenait aux parents de Marie et ils y établirent résidence. C'est l'endroit où Marie et son père Maurice résident encore aujourd'hui. John poursuivait son métier avec le Bridge Branch tout en étant cultivateur.



John Tally at work.

John est décédé accidentellement le 30 janvier, 1980 alors qu'il travaillait sur le pont de Big Smoky entre Valleyview et Grande Prairie. John repose en paix au cimetière St-Guy, près de son beau frère Eugène Lambert.

Marie continua à demeurer sur la ferme avec ses deux enfants, Dwayne et Joanne. Elle se maria en secondes noces, le 25 février, 1984 à



R.1 Marie, Cheryl Pitre, Joanne Tally. R.2 Philippe Pitre, Dwayne Tally.

Joseph Antoine Philippe Pitre. Philippe est un photographe et il a un studio de photographie à Valleyview.

Marie Sharon Lambert: n. 23-01-1946

m. 17-12-1966

John Louis Tally: d. 30-01-1980

Enfants:

1) Dwayne John: n. 27-05-1969

2) Joanne Marie: n. 10-03-1974

2m. 25-02-1984 à Joseph Antoine Philippe Pitre

* * *

Marie Sharon Lambert was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Lambert. She went to school at Guy then took a nursing aide course in Edmonton. She worked at High Prairie and Peace River hospital and currently in Valleyview.

After marrying John Tally she had two children. In 1971 the couple bought a quarter section from Marie's parents and settled there. Marie and her father still live there today. John pursued his work with the Bridge Branch and farmed also. He died accidentally while working on the Big Smoky bridge between Valleyview and Grande Prairie.

Marie stayed on the farm with her two children. She married again, this time to Antoine Philippe Pitre, a photographer from Valleyview.

THOMAS, ANTOINE

par Marie Blanchet-Mencke

Natif de Saxon en Suisse, Antoine vint au

monde en 1876. En 1920 il décida de venir vivre au Canada avec la famille d'Albert Blanchet. Il prit le "homestead" S.E. 18-76-21-W5. Antoine ne s'est jamais marié. Il passa ses dernières années à Whitelaw dans un "Nursing Home". Il est décédé à Whitelaw en mai 1957 et fut inhumé au cimetière de Falher.

* * *

A native of Saxon in Switzerland, Antoine was born in 1876. In 1920 he decided to come to Canada with Albert Blanchet's family. He took a homestead. He never married. He spent his last years in a nursing home in Whitelaw. He died at Whitelaw in May 1957 and his body lies in Falher cemetery.

THOMAS, PAUL

par Marie Blanchet-Mencke

Paul, frère d'Antoine et de Marie (Mme Albert Blanchet) est né en Suisse. En 1920 il vint s'installer au sud de Falher. Son terrain était



Albert Blanchet (père), Oscar (Numa), Marie Blanchet (mère), Robert Blanchet & Paul Thomas, frère de Mme Blanchet.

situé sur la S.W. 17-76-22-W5. Paul aussi était célibataire. Il est décédé le 22 juin 1935. Il repose au cimetière de Falher.

* * *

Paul, brother of Antoine and Marie (Mrs. Albert Blanchet) was born in Switzerland. In 1920 he settled south of Falher. Paul also was single. He died June 22, 1935. He rests in the Falher cemetery.

TODOR, NICOLoy (MIKE) & WINNICKY, OLGA

as told by Olga Winnicky

Nicoloy, son of Antonio Alexis and Anatasia Prokopchuk was born in the Ukraine, May 22,

1904. He was in the Polish Army when he heard of the cheap land available in Canada; he decided to come with his two cousins, Bill and Nick Todor to see for themselves.

They first arrived in Winnipeg, Man. in the fall of 1929 and were employed that same autumn on the threshing crews by Saskatchewan farmers. After spending a few years in that province the three young men ventured to the Peace River country in northern Alberta to file on homesteads. They found land available west of what is now Guy and Mike filed on SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 16-75-21-W5.



Mervin, Irene, Edward, Helen, Mike, Olga Todor.

The first chore was to erect a shelter on Bill's land. The three young men set to work building a small log house and later building a 14'x16' log cabin on Mike's quarter. Then came the clearing of land by hand with an axe and lots of sweat. To earn some much-needed dollars they went working for better established farmers such as Mr. Trudeau and Mr. Villeneuve in the Falher area.

Mike met and courted Olga, the neighbor, John Winnicky and Julia Waworski's daughter. Mike and Olga were married in the newly built R.C. church in Guy by Rev. F. Mallet. No honeymoon in those days! It was home to the little log shack right after the celebration.

Home consisted of the 14'x16' cabin built by Mike and his cousins, furnished with a small stove, three hand-made kitchen chairs, and the luxury of a rocking chair, also built by a local man and for dishes, a cupboard which consisted of wooden apple crates piled one on top of the

other with a curtain in front. (Olga with a smile says she does not know if the curtain was to prevent dust on the dishes or if it was for a decoration.) Of course there was also a table built by Mike. It was everything needed when a young couple in love trust their freedom in a new land.

On Olga's father's advice Mike bought three oxen to be used for work as well as for transportation. What a mistake! Slow and stubborn are words that cannot describe these beasts. Olga remembers once she was watching Mike at work from her kitchen window. One ox was hitched to a large tree stump to pull it out of the ground. On hearing loud noises a while later she went outside to see the ox unperturbed on its way past the house and Mike standing by the stump, (still in the ground) with the harness in his hands. Such unreliable help!

Mike decided then and there to offer the three oxen carcasses to the butcher shop! He then went to an auction sale and bought a horse and buggy. Progress!

After the arrival of the two eldest children it became very crowded in the little log shack so Mr. Winnicky, Olga's father, helped Mike build a bigger home which was used till 1951. By then Mr. Louis Moreau, a very kind neighbor, helped build the house that still stands today.



Mike, Olga, Ed Todor & Mike Winnicky on their way to visit Olga's parents. The sleigh was hand made by Olga's father, John Winnicky.

After the oxen experience, Mike used horses to clear the land. Olga filed on a homestead of her own. The couple struggled for survival. Mr. and Mrs. Winnicky having brought farm animals with them from Saskatchewan, gave the young couple a cow and some chickens. So with a good garden, deer and moose passing close to the house, much to Mike the hunter's delight, the family never lacked food says Olga.

Water was another story though. Olga had to hitch the horse to the stone-boat to fetch a barrel

of water from the Little Smoky River. The banks were steep and the trail narrow and bumpy. It took quite a while for the trip so grandpa was kind enough to stay with the young children while Olga was gone. Water for washing was obtained from a shallow well in a slough. In spite of these drawbacks Mike and Olga stayed with their farm and raised five children.

Irene, a daughter, recalls the happiness caused by the purchase of the Fordson tractor which became the new mode of transportation. Olga made good use of it, bringing her children and sometimes the neighbor's children, all boys, to school at Edgehill, a distance of three and a half miles. Somehow all the children managed to ride on the tractor. Mike was also seen at the Guy Post Office once or twice a week riding his blue Fordson.

Mike and his children often went to the Smoky River to fish and this hobby provided many delicious meals.



Dennis Todor.

Dennis, the youngest child, was more fortunate than the other children as he could board the school bus right at the door attend school in Guy and later at G. P. Vanier in Donnelly.

As years went by Mike devoted more time to his hobbies, honey bees and gardening. In fact Olga and Mike grew a large garden and when neighbors went to buy vegetables, they kindly added extra vegetables to the customers' bags.

Irene remembers growing her very own garden as a child. She once traded vegetables for a rabbit and another time traded a five pound pail

of cucumbers for two baby ducks. The children were encouraged to seed, weed, and cultivate their own little patch.

Mike Todor: n.22-05-1904 m.22-04-1933
d.09-06-1978

Olga Winnicky: n.09-09-1913

CHILDREN:

1. Edward: n.02-08-1933
2. Helen: n.02-11-1934
3. Mervin: n.18-05-1936
4. Irene: n.04-12-1941
5. Dennis: n.03-11-1954

* * *

Nicholoy est né en Ukraine, le 22 mai, 1904. Il était membre de l'armée polonaise et décida d'émigrer au Canada où l'on pouvait obtenir cent soixante acres de terre pour \$10.00.

Avec ses deux cousins, Bill et Nick Todor, il arriva d'abord à Winnipeg au Manitoba à l'automne de 1929, puis les trois furent employés aux battages en Saskatchewan. Après avoir passé quelques années dans cette province, ils vinrent prendre des 'homestead' dans la région de Rivière-la-Paix, à l'ouest de Guy.

Ils durent d'abord se contruire un abri sur la terre de Bill, Puis construisit une autre cabane un peu plus grande sur la terre de Mike. On défricha la terre à coups de bache et à la sueur de son front.

Mike fit la connaissance de la fille de son voisin, Olga, fille de John Winnicky et Julia Waworski. Ils s'épousèrent dans la nouvelle église à Guy. Le Père F. Mallet était l'officiant.

Après la naissance des deux premiers enfants la cabane était beaucoup trop petite, alors Mike et son beau-père construisirent une plus grande maison qui servit d'abri jusqu'à 1951. Par la suite un bon voisin, M. Louis Moreau aida à la construction d'une autre maison qui existe toujours à cet endroit.

Ce fut une grande joie le jour où Mike acheta un petit tracteur qui devint le moyen de transport. Olga s'en servait pour amener ses enfants et parfois ceux des voisins à l'école Edgehill située à trois milles et demi.

Malgré les temps durs, Mike et Olga ont élevé leur cinq enfants à la ferme.

Au fil des ans, Mike passa plus de temps à s'occuper de ses abeilles et de son jardin.

TOKARZ, ALBERT & HUL, MARIEA

by Mona and family

Albert Tokarz was born in 1899 in Poland. He served in the Polish army during W.W.I. and lived through the hunger, rags and faulty equip-



Albert Tokarz before he left France.



Mariya Tokarz seated. Picture taken in 1930 just before she left Poland.



Wedding picture Mariya & Albert Tokarz.

ment and the chronic lack of ammunition of that army; if he could have forgotten all those miseries there were always the bits of iron and the slight limp in his leg to keep the memories fresh.

At the age of 25 he left for France where he worked for five years in a coal factory; he learned the French language. In 1927 he was approached several times by the French people to go to America as they were great wealth to be made. He then decided to make arrangements to go to the Peace River area of Alberta, Canada where there were French speaking people. Albert went back to Poland for Christmas to visit his parents and bid them farewell. He then met Mariea Hul; this was love at first sight and he married her. As his visa was due and the ship was to sail, he left his young bride in Poland promising her that he would make a lot of money and would return in two years. Then they could live very comfortably. Albert arrived in Falher in the winter of 1928 and was met by Bob Violette. He started clearing

land by axe for him. Later Violette took him to some land closer to the Smoky River. By then it was spring. Albert then filed for that homestead which is now in the Guy area. This was to be a temporary place so he built a shelter between spruce trees with smaller trees and the roof covered with dirt. Then he started clearing land by contract with an axe and his hands. His first contract was at Frank Aubin's and he worked for him several times and had great respect for him and Mrs. Aubin. He also cleared land for Mr. Ethier.



First home in Guy for Albert & Mariya.

After two years Albert had a log house of his own, two horses, eleven acres of land open plus 800 bushels of wheat in the log house. He had saved enough money to pay for his wife's fare so that she could come and join him and this was all during the depression!

Mariea arrived in November of 1930 and much to her surprise it was all heavy bush with no one around. She settled in a tiny room of that log house as the rest of it was filled with wheat. Soon after Albert used three hundred bushels of that wheat to buy one milking cow; wheat then sold for 25 cents a bushel. As the years of hard work and efforts continued, Mariea always had a large garden, canning most vegetables and fruits. Rarely has anyone passed by or visited them without having a good home-made meal. There has been a small polish community in the area and often the gathering was at Tokarz's place as they lived close to the Guy church; that was the main event, church, picnics and bazaars and Mariea was known for the best lemon pies.

For several years Mariea would set up her living room for Sunday afternoon mass. Father Mihalowski used to come from Webster once a month to say mass in Polish. After the service a large supper was served for everyone.

In 1947 Albert bought the first power plant in this area; it was set up by Camille Moulun and it consisted of a generator and batteries. By then they were living in their new home; this was a great improvement, having lights in all the rooms.



After the Parish mass in the yard of Albert & Mariya Tokarz.

In 1962 Mariea and Albert decided to visit their native land in Poland; upon their return trip they were very happy to be back in Guy. They both agreed it was worth the hard work and hardships they had experienced to be able to see their children enjoy the freedom and conveniences of today. Six of their children live in the area. Wanda lives in High Prairie and Elizabeth lives in Hinton.



Mother Mrs. Mariya Tokarz.

Albert passed away in June 1975 at the age of 76; Mariea retired and is living in her home in High Prairie where she still enjoys her garden and flowers.

Albert Tokarz; b.1899 m.02–1928 d.06–1975.
Mariae Hul; b.01–05–1910.

CHILDREN:

1. Edward; b.06–08–1931. Married to Helen Williams.

2. Mona; b.25–09–1932.

Married to John Koeon.

They have six children: Richard, Karl, Debbie (d.08–1975), Brenda, Nolan and Cleom.

Second marriage to Sylva Servant (16–05–1987)

3. Joseph; b.07–1934 d.

4. Guy; b.12–08–1938 m.

Kristina Dul. (divorced)

Three children: Gail Basarab, Linda and Nancy.

5. Wanda; b.12–08–1937 m.

William Henderson.

They have two children: Lisa and Tanya.

6. John; b.28–02–1939 m.

Gemma Cloutier.

They have three children: Wayne, Darcy and Shawn.

7. Elizabeth; b.18–03–1940 m.

Marcel Morin.

They have two children: Marcella and David.

8. Ronnie; b.08–04–1943 m.

Irma Furstenwerth.

9. Louis; b.28–01–1945 m.

Marie Jeanne Robertson.

They have two children: Steve and Patricia.

* * *

Albert naquit en Pologne en 1899. Il servit dans l'armée polonaise, durant la première guerre mondiale. Il eut pour souvenir, une blessure dans la jambe, que le fit boiter.

Agé de vingt-cinq ans il est allé travailler en France pendant cinq ans. C'est là qu'il apprit à parler le français. En 1927, après avoir été convaincu par les français, que la fortune était promise en Amérique, Albert, décida de s'en venir dans la région de Rivière-la-Paix. Il retourna en Pologne dire au revoir à ses parents, mais il fit la connaissance de Mariea Hul, qui su captiver son coeur.

Le jeune couple se maria et Albert partit seul, laissant en Pologne sa jeune épouse, avec la certitude qu'il viendrait la chercher dans deux ans.

A l'hiver de 1928 Albert arriva à Falher, chez Bob Violette, où il prit un emploi. Pendant deux ans, Albert travailla fort pour ramasser de l'argent pour faire venir sa femme. Il réussit à

acquérir du terrain, à Guy, une maison de bois rond, deux chevaux, onze acres de terrain en culture et huit cents minots de blé mis en entre-pôt dans son "shack". Il avait assez d'argent pour faire venir Mariea, mais pas assez pour y aller.

En novembre 1930, Mariea arriva pour s'installer près du blé dans le "shack". Avec trois cents minots de blé, à vingt cinq cents du minot, ils ont pu acheter une vache à lait.

Ils ont tous les deux travaillé très fort, et leur maison était une place d'accueil pour les familles polonaises.

En 1962, Albert et Mariea ont pu retourner dans leur pays natal visiter parents et amis.

Albert et Mariea ont prit leur retraite à High Prairie, où Albert est décédé en juin 1975. Mariea demeure toujours à High Prairie.

TOKARZ, EDWARD & WILLIAMS, HELEN

by Eddy Tokarz

On August 6, 1931, I was the first child born to Albert and Marya Tokarz. At age six, I started school at Fred Caron's house where Mrs. Melonia Caron was my first teacher. Three years later I moved to Whiteland School where I spent most of my school years. I did one more year at Langlois School where I was taught by Father Claude de Champlain.

When I finished school at 17 I went to work at some logging camps and then worked on oil rigs. For a few years, I farmed with my dad in the Guy area. Later on I started trucking and have worked on road constructions. I continued trucking and farmed out of High Prairie since 1952.

On March 18, 1978 I married Helen Williams of St. Boniface, Manitoba. I presently reside in the Gilwood area of High Prairie, Alberta.

Edward Tokarz n. 06–08–1931 m. 18–03–1978

Helen Williams

* * *

A l'âge de six ans je commencai l'école chez M. Fred Caron où Mme Melonia Caron fut ma première institutrice. Trois ans après je déménageai à l'école Whiteland. Je fis une autre année à l'école Langlois où M. l'abbé Claude de Champlain m'enseigna.

Quand je terminai l'école à 17 ans, j'allai travailler dans des chantiers et ensuite pour des puits de forage. Pendant quelques années je cultivai avec mon père dans la région de Guy. Plus tard, je fis du camionnage et du travail pour la construction de chemins. J'ai continué le camionnage et la culture près de High Prairie en 1952.

Le 18 mars 1978, j'épousai Helen Williams de St. Boniface, Manitoba. Je demeure dans le quartier Gilwood de High Prairie, Alberta.

TOKARZ, GUY & DUL, KRISTINA

by Guy

Guy, son of Albert Tokarz and Mary Dul was born in Guy, August 12, 1936. He attended three different country schools; Whiteland, Edgehill and Langlois, depending on which school was in operation. He was raised on the farm with four brothers and three sisters.

When he was twenty-two years old, he obtained his first half section of land S $\frac{1}{2}$ -18-75-19-W5 by a draw costing \$10. per quarter. This was the beginning of his farming venture. The first year Tony Virkljan was hired to brushcut and pile one hundred acres for \$800. The second year he borrowed \$1000. from the Provincial Government's ten year program to help beginning farmers, and hired Rene and Kisis Dlugosz; the rest of the half section was completely cleared the third year.

Another quarter, NW-32-75-20-W5, was bought from Alec Abramovich; then a 99 year Cultivation Lease, W $\frac{1}{2}$ -5-75-21-W5 was added.

In 1970, Guy bought Michael Sniezek's E $\frac{1}{2}$ -36-75-21-W5 for \$18,000 and later the N $\frac{1}{2}$ -23-75-21-W5 from Raymond Bisson for a total of nine quarters.

In recent years, Guy chose to seed five of these quarters in alfalfa on contract to sell the crop to the local Alfalfa Plants and to rent his four other quarters to local farmers, thus avoiding the high cost of buying farm machinery.

On a trip to Poland in 1976 he met a pretty polish girl, Kristina Dul who came to Canada the following year, and they married later that summer.

The newly wed couple resided three years on the farm, half a mile from the hamlet of Guy; Kristina learning the English language and getting used to Canadian ways. While on holidays in Kelowna B.C., Kristina attended school for three months and mastered the English language so that she could now take the Registered Nurses' tests and continue her nursing career should she so wish. The two girls Linda and Nancy were born in Guy.

After three years the couple bought a house in High Prairie and moved there, Kristina worked at the High Prairie Complex for a short time.

Unable to reconcile their differences, Guy and Kristina were divorced in 1981. Guy returned to his home on the farm.

Since Guy rents his land, he has time to travel and has enjoyed trips to: Hawaii, United States,

the Yukon and the North West Territories. He claims his favorite places are in the north where the scenery is unbelievably beautiful. The best education for him was to witness how the people of the north survive.

Guy's hobby is auction sales! He travels all over the continent to buy surpluses and enjoys a little gambling on the side.

Guy is thankful for his health and his love of risk and life.

Guy Tokarz; b.12-08-1936 m.15-07-1977.

Kristina Dul; b.19-12-1950 in Poland.

CHILDREN:

1. Gail Basarab; b.03-05-1970

2. Linda; b.09-03-1978.

3. Nancy; b.17-12-1980.

* * *

Guy est né à Guy, le 12 août, 1936. Il fit ses études aux écoles de la paroisse. Il fut élevé sur la ferme paternelle tout près du village.

A l'âge de vingt-deux ans, il acquit la demie S18-75-19-W5 pour la somme de \$20.00. Pendant les trois premières années, il réussit à tout ouvrir son terrain. Etant un fermier ambitieux il acquit sept autres quarts de terre.

Ayant choisi de voyager, Guy loue ses terres et fait un voyage en Pologne en 1976. Durant son séjour là, il fit la connaissance d'une jeune fille, Kristina Dul, et l'année suivante elle s'en vint au Canada et elle devint son épouse à l'été.

Guy adore les encans et la spéculation et voyage souvent pour poursuivre ses intérêts.

TOKARZ, JOHN & CLOUTIER, GEMMA

by Gemma Tokarz

John is the son of Albert and Mary Tokarz of Guy. He has four brothers and three sisters.

John had to walk long distances to get to school at that period of time because the rural schools were not always in operation. The school might be closed because no teacher was available. So it is that John attended Whiteland school, Benoit school, Edgehill school, and finally Langlois when it opened in 1947.

When eighteen years old John took a lease east of Guy N $\frac{1}{2}$ -7-75-19-W5M., and started farming. He also worked at different periods on road construction, for oil companies and seismic crews and also for pipeline construction.

John enjoys sports. He played baseball with a Donnelly Team, and also with a Guy team. Hunting and trapping are favorites of his.

After he married he purchased from Raoul Lambert, one quarter of land NW $\frac{1}{4}$ -36-75-21-



R.1 Shawn, Darcy. R.2 John, Gemma, Kathy & Wayne.

W5M., closer to town where the family made their home.

John and Gemma are very involved with community activities: varied sports, pre-school, the school board, and the Guy Sports Committee.

We both drove school buses for a few years. Later in January of 1975 Gemma became Postmaster of Guy. The couple takes part in many fun activities; camping, boating, water skiing, ski-dooing, motor biking. Father and sons played some hockey. John is still playing for the old timer's hockey team.

In September 1983 John and Gemma purchased the Guy General store from Lucien and Lea Paradis. The Post Office was moved to an addition built adjoining the store. We are still operating the post office from the Credit Union building as the store was completely destroyed by fire March 8, 1987.

John Tokarz: b.28-02-1939 m.02-02-1963.

Gemma L. Cloutier: b.25-05-1944.

CHILDREN:

1. Wayne D.: b.05-06-1963 m.21-06-1986.
Kathy Sliger: b.10-05-1966.
2. Darcy R: b.12-08-1967.
3. Shawn L.: b.20-02-1973.

* * *

John, le fils d'Albert et Mary Tokarz, naquit à Guy, le 28 février 1939. A l'âge de dix-huit ans, il acquit son premier "homestead", 1/2-N-7-75-19-O-5M, à l'est du village de Guy. Quand il ne travaillait pas sur la ferme, il travaillait pour les compagnies d'huile.

Le 2 février 1963, il épousa Gemma Cloutier, de Girouxville. Tous deux sont très actifs dans les sports et sont très dévoués dans les organisations paroissiales.

Pendant quelques années John et Gemma conduisirent des autobus scolaires. En 1975 Gemma devint maîtresse de poste. En 1983 ils ont acheté le magasin de M. et Mme Lucien Paradis qui malheureusement fut détruit par le feu le 8 mars, 1987.

John est encore fermier et Gemma s'occupe du bureau de poste.

TOKARZ, LOUIS & ROBERTSON, MARIE JEANNE

by Louis

On January 31, 1946, Louis, the youngest son of Albert and Mary Tokarz was born. The family consisted of five brothers and three sisters.

Louis attended Langlois school in Guy. He started farming at an early age with his brother Ronnie and during the winter months worked on seismic exploration crews. A few years later, he took over the home quarter and has farmed on his own since then on the SW 36-75-21-W5.



Steve, Louis, Patricia, Marie Jeanne.

In 1972, Louis met Marie-Jeanne Robertson of Falher who was studying to be a Registered Nursing Aide in Edmonton. After graduation, she worked at the McLennan General Hospital.

In the summer of 1974, Louis and Marie-Jeanne decided to exchange their vows on December 27, 1974. The ceremony was held in

the Parish of Ste. Anne in Falher and officiated by Father Eugene Leblanc o.m.i.

Two children, Steve and Patty were born of this union and both children are now attending G. P. Vanier School in Donnelly.

Louis: n.31-01-1946 m.27-12-1974

Marie-Jeanne: n.05-08-1952

CHILDREN:

1. Steven: n.06-01-1977

2. Patricia: n.11-03-1978

* * *

Le 31 janvier 1946, Louis Tokarz naissait, le fils cadet de Albert et Mary Tokarz, une famille qui comptait cinq garçons et trois filles.

Louis fit ses études à l'école Langlois de Guy.

Il se mit à travailler à la ferme avec son frère Ronnie et durant l'hiver il travailla avec une compagnie sismique. Depuis quelques années, il cultive la ferme de son père et continue le métier de fermier.

En 1972, il rencontra Marie-Jeanne Robertson de Falher, alors qu'elle suivait un cours d'aide infirmière à Edmonton. Après sa graduation elle travailla à l'hôpital de Mclellan.

A l'été 1974, Louis et Marie-Jeanne se fiancèrent et s'épousèrent le 27 décembre 1974 dans la paroisse Ste. Anne de Falher.

De cette union, deux enfants sont nés – Steve et Patty qui étudient présentement à l'école G.P. Vanier à Donnelly.

TOKARZ, STANLEY

by the family

Stanley arrived in the Guy area in 1930 at the age of 19 to join his brother, Albert; it was the time of the Depression so he had worked for various settlers for \$5.00 a month for three years. He then moved from the area and is now retired from General Electric and living in Toronto with his wife and two children and four grandchildren.

Stanley has been back to visit the area several times and says it's unbelievable how the area has changed and everyone's life style is so modern.

* * *

Stanley arrive dans la région en 1930 à l'âge de dix-neuf ans. Il venait rejoindre son frère Albert. C'est le temps de la crise économique et il travaille pour les fermiers des alentours à 5,00 \$ par mois. Il partit tôt de la région et fut employé dans l'est du pays pour la compagnie General Electric.

Il est à sa retraite et vit maintenant à Toronto avec sa femme. Deux enfants et quatre petits-enfants demeurent aussi dans cette ville.

TURCOTTE, ANATOLE & BRULOTTE, GERMAINE

by Anatole Turcotte

I, Anatole, the son of Laurea Wilhelmina Major and of Léonidas Turcotte was born in Frenchville, Saskatchewan in 1919 during the ravages of the worldwide epidemic of influenza. I was born at home and delivered by a midwife, Mrs. Desharnais (who, incidentally, moved to Guy in the 1930's to become Father St. Pierre's housekeeper). According to my mother, settlers boiled creosol constantly in their modest, little shacks in an effort to ward off the flu virus. Apparently it worked for my parents I survived the tragedy.



R.1 Geoffery Dean, Germaine Turcotte, Monique Dean, Lindsay Turcotte. R.2 Marcel Turcotte, Diane, Raymond, Patrice Blanchette, Anatole Turcotte, Denise Dean, Rebecca, Bradley, Claude Turcotte.

When I was five years old, my parents moved to Albertville, Saskatchewan and it was there I received my schooling. My father died shortly after arriving in Albertville so I matured rather quickly shouldering fatherly responsibilities at an early age.

In 1936, the family moved to McKague, Saskatchewan leaving village life to start a new way of life on a farm. My brothers, Joseph (16), Gabriel (13) and I (17) moved our belongings a distance of 125 miles by means of horses and a hayrack with two cows tied behind it. We took turns walking behind, rain or shine, prodding the cows to move on. It took us ten days to complete this eventful and challenging trip. Because of the steady walk, the cows quit chewing their cud causing one of them to bloat seriously. Luckily,

an experienced farmer came to the rescue by forcing the cow to drink a mixture of kerosene and cylinder oil. In twenty minutes, the cow was saved and three grateful and relieved youths slept in the farmer's yard overnight! On another occasion, a mad bull jumped the fence to come after the cows. We were frightened out of our wits and had no time to untie the dog so I threw a stone at the bull. To my surprise, the bull buckled to its knees allowing us time to unleash the dog who promptly changed the bull's intentions!

On June 6, 1940 I joined the Regina Rifle Regiment. Four years later on "D Day" I landed on the horrendous beaches of Normandy. By the grace of God I managed to escape the blood-bath of my companions and go on to serve in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany.

After World War II, I ventured west to Northern Alberta and filed a homestead near Guy on the S $\frac{1}{2}$ 75-19-W5. Little Smoky Farm Industries did the brushcutting for us with the blade attached to the A frame of the cat and towing the brush-cutter behind with a chain.

I remember wearing out more than a pair of mule-skin mitts cranking the old Dodge pick-up in order to go for groceries in Guy during the winters of 1946-47. My brother Joseph and I often ended up striking out on foot across country with a pack on our back.

Once when I was opening the road to Guy with a Richardson blower which we operated for the Municipal District of Smoky River, I figured I'd do Maurice Lambert a favor by opening his driveway. It took me a while before I realized that I was filling his kitchen with the snow I was blowing through the kitchen window! Some favor when it's -20 degrees Farenheit outside! Fortunately, it happened to one of the most understanding and forgiving residents in Guy.

In 1950, I married Germaine Brulotte, daughter of William Brulotte and Marie-Rosanna Boulet, who has always been my one and only. We had four children.

Claude, the eldest, farms with his father and brother, Marcel. He resides on Roy Kellie's former homestead SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -12-75-20-W5.

Denise has made her home in Caroline, Alberta. They are the owners of the store "Caroline Supplies".

Diane resides on NW-12-75-20-W5 owned by her father, Anatole. Her husband, Raymond Blanchette, is the accountant for Chalifoux Motors (1984) Ltd. in Falher.

Marcel is single and available, farming with his father and brother.

Anatole Turcotte: n.21-01-1919 m.30-10-1950 d.08-10-1987

Germaine Brulotte: n.15-06-1932

CHILDREN:

1. Claude: n.03-11-1951 m.27-06-1981
Rebecca Krpan: n.27-04-1959
a) Lindsay: n.01-07-1982
b) Bradley: n.08-06-1984
2. Denise: n.25-11-1952 m.07-06-1974
Reginald Dean: n.10-10-1952
a) Geoffery: n.02-05-1980
b) Monique: n.25-09-1981
3. Diane: n.31-05-1961 m.25-07-1980
Raymond Blanchette: n.12-01-1960
a) Patrice: n.17-09-1986
4. Marcel: n.21-01-1965

* * *

Quand j'avais cinq ans, mes parents déménagèrent à Albertville, Saskatchewan et c'est à l'âge que j'ai été à l'école. Mon père mourut peu après être arrivé à Albertville alors j'ai dû assumer des responsabilités à un jeune âge.

En 1936, la famille déménagea à McKague, Saskatchewan pour commencer une nouvelle vie sur une ferme.

Le 6 juin 1940, je rejoins le régiment des Regina Rifle. Quatre ans plus tard au "Jour D" j'arrivais sur les plages de la Normandie. Par la grâce de Dieu, j'ai été épargné et servit en France, Belgique, Hollande et Allemagne.

Après la deuxième guerre je me suis rendu à l'ouest dans le Nord de l'Alberta et j'ai pris un "homestead". Little Smoky Farm Industries coupèrent le bois pour nous.

En 1950, j'épousai Germaine Brulotte et nous avons eu quatre enfants: Claude, Denise, Diane et Marcel.

TURCOTTE, BRUNO & DUSSEAUT, JEANNE

by Jeanne Dusseault Turcotte

Bruno was born in St. Cyrille, Drummond County, Québec. At the age of three he moved to Ste. Brigitte des Saults, County of Nicolet, where he received his education.

In 1926 he came to Eston, Saskatchewan, where he worked as a farm laborer. The same fall in partnership with Rudolph Jutras he bought three quarters of land which they seeded the following spring. A big frost on August 7 killed the crops so Bruno left everything to go work on a ranch at Tanner Flats for two years. In 1929 he moved to Girouxville where he bought the butcher shop from Eugene Lanctot for \$300.00. Two years later he sold his business to his brother Romeo who had just arrived from Montreal. Bruno then moved to Falher and rented the but-



Gilbert, Paul, Roland Turcotte.

cher shop from Mr. and Mrs. Henri Martel, but the dirty thirties came along and he was left with more credit than he could handle. So in the fall of 1933 with his wife Jeanne he moved to his homestead, twelve miles south of Falher in the Guy area. He opened this land and farmed there for 11 years. In 1935, he became road foreman and helped in the construction of the much needed roads in the district. The Social Credit government was in power with W. Aberhart as Premier; many of the road employees remember being paid with the scrips issued by the Province of Alberta.

In 1944, he bought the Girouxville Hotel from Mrs. Brien. Four years later he returned to Falher and bought in partnership with Alphonse Courchesne the Falher Hotel. A few years later he sold the business and returned to his farm where he stayed until 1973 at which time he and his wife retired to Falher. Jeanne still resides in her home in Falher.



Document from the Provincial Archives of Alberta. Remember the Scrip from 1936.

Bruno Turcotte: n.13-10-1901 m.26-04-1932
d.16-09-1976 Jeanne Dusseault: n.26-08-1913

CHILDREN:

1. Roland: n.17-06-1934 m.14-07-1956
Léonne Bellerive: n.24-08-1935
 - a) Joanne: n.16-05-1957
 - b) Daniel: n.16-08-1958
 - c) Claude: n.16-05-1961

Roland is presently the mayor of Falher.

2. Gilbert: n.28-11-1936
He lives in Calgary.
3. Paul: n.03-03-1940 m.04-02-1960
Norma Johnson: n.24-02-1939
(See Turcotte, Paul.)
4. Léo: n.19-11-1949 m.11-08-1979
Suzanne Roy. They have three boys: Joel, Julien et Pierre Michel. Léo is the Principal of the French School, "Maurice Lavallée," in Edmonton.

* * *

Du comté de Drummond, Québec, Bruno déménagea à Ste-Brigitte des Saouls, comté de Nicolet, où il reçut son éducation.

En 1929, il déménagea de la Saskatchewan à Girouxville où il acheta la boucherie d'Eugène Lancot qu'il vendit à Roméo, son frère. Il déménagea à Falher et loua la boucherie de M. et Mme Henri Martel mais la crise économique vint et il resta avec plus de crédit qu'il ne voulait. A l'automne 1933, avec sa femme, Jeanne il déménagea sur son "homestead", douze milles au sud de Falher dans la région de Guy. Il ouvrit ce terrain et le cultiva pendant onze ans. En 1935, il devint contremaître des travaux de construction de chemins dans le district.

En 1944, il acheta l'hôtel de Girouxville de Mme Brien. Quatre ans plus tard, il revint à Falher et en association avec Alphonse Courchesne acheta l'hôtel de Falher. Peu de temps après, il vendit ce commerce et retourna sur la ferme où il resta jusqu'en 1973. A sa retraite, lui et sa femme se retirèrent à Falher. Jeanne demeure encore dans sa maison à Falher.

TURCOTTE, GABRIEL & OUELLET, MICHELINE

Gabriel J. Turcotte est le fils unique de Joseph et Rita Turcotte. Il a gradué de l'école G.P. Vanier de Donnelly en 1971 et a commencé à cultiver la terre avec son père en 1972. Il s'est marié en 1980 avec Micheline Ouellet de Tangent.

Ils habitent en face de ses parents, avec leurs deux garçons, Gabriel Louis et Normand Joseph.



Micheline, Gabriel, Normand et Gabriel.

Gabriel Turcotte: n. 08-11-1953

m. 04-07-1980

Micheline Ouellet: n. 05-11-1960

Enfants:

1) Gabriel Louis: n. 14-08-1982

2) Normand Joseph: n. 03-08-1984

* * *

Gabriel J. Turcotte graduated from G.P. Vanier School in Donnelly in 1972.

He got married in 1980 with Micheline Ouellet of Tangent. They live across from his parents with their two sons.

TURCOTTE, GEDEON

by Annette Johnson

Gédéon Turcotte, son of Alphonse Turcotte and Angèle Gagnon was born on October 14, 1896 in County Dorchester, Quebec. In 1914 Gédéon enlisted in the Canadian army and was posted in Vladivostok (Siberia).

Arriving in Guy in 1931, Gédéon homesteaded on NE 19-75-20-W5, while living with his brother Alcide. Selling his land to Benoit Major, Gédéon then moved to GrandePrairie where he married Flore Gauvreau in 1946. Gédéon spent his last years in Edmonton where he passed away in 1965.

Gédéon Turcotte: n.14-10-1896

m.1946

d.28-10-1965

Flore Gauvreau

* * *

En 1914, Gédéon s'enrôla dans l'armée canadienne et fut affecté à Vladivostok (Sibérie).

Arrivant à Guy en 1931, Gédéon prit un "homestead" tout en vivant avec son frère Alcide. Il vendit sa terre à Benoit Major et déménagea à Grande Prairie où il épousa Flore Gauvreau en 1946. Gédéon demeura à Edmonton durant ses dernières années où il est décédé en 1965.

TURCOTTE, JOSEPH & KUSCH, RITA

by Rita Turcotte

In the fall of 1945 Jos, Anatole and their mother Wilhelmina visited their close relatives, the Benoit Major's, who were residing on their farm near Guy.

They were greatly impressed by the vast and beautiful Peace River Country.



Jos and Rita Turcotte.

Homestead leases were still available so, looking for greener pastures, they decided to homestead in that new found paradise.

That winter Anatole stayed back while Jos and his mother returned to sell the farm they owned in McKague, Saskatchewan.

Meanwhile, that winter Anatole, with the help of his kind, supportive and hard working uncle Benoit and cousin Aldeo, cut and hauled logs to Mr. Raoul Lambert's sawmill to be sawed into lumber for their first home.

When Jos arrived the following summer the shack had been built. Together they loaded the shack and moved it down the trail leading to Anatole's homestead, east of Guy, which was adjacent to the one where Jos now resides on NW 19-75-19, W5.

Everything was quiet the first night spent in their new home. Jos recalls that upon rising the

following morning their mother, full of hope and joy, exclaimed that they were not alone, a dog was wandering at their door. Alas! it was but a bold coyote.

That summer was certainly a busy one; eighty acres of land was cleared by hand, roots picked, piled, and burned and land readied to be seeded. Unfortunately, the beautiful crop of oats froze in early autumn leaving only the hulls on the stems. But this mishap didn't deter their determination to open up their homestead from corner to corner.



Jos and Rita's first house.

The winter of 1946 was spent building a permanent home on Anatole's homestead.

In 1947 Jos filed NE-19-75-19 W5 and SE 30-75-19 W5.

Little by little the land was cleared and new buildings were set up. To supplement the farm Jos worked at carpentry.

In 1950 Jos married Rita Kusch from Domremy, Saskatchewan and together they spent the first winter in Sidney, British Columbia, where her parents resided and where Jos worked at carpentry with his new brother-in-law.

Having been brought up on a farm and enjoying it very much, it was with great enthusiasm that, the following spring, Rita started her farming career on their very own farm.

Since Anatole and Germaine were residing temporarily in Windsor, Ontario and had graciously offered their home the newlyweds lived there until theirs was built that summer.

It was with great anticipation that Rita got to know her wonderful neighbours.

In 1953 their son Gabriel was born.

Working together the brothers, and later with the help of their sons, acquired more land and machinery farming together until 1981.

By then their sons had land of their own enabling them to continue farming with their

respective parents although, very often, the work and machinery are still shared as before.

Apart from helping on the farm Rita taught school in Guy.

Gabe married Micheline Ouellet of Tangent, Alberta, in July 1980, and they reside across the road from their parents' farm.

They have two lovely sons Gabriel (Jr.) and Normand, the pride and joy of Pepere' and Memere' Turcotte.

Joseph Turcotte: n. 26-02-1920 m. 27-12-1950
Rita Kusch: n. 01-09-1924

CHILDREN:

1) Gabriel: n. 08-12-1953 m. 04-07-1980

Micheline Ouellet:

They have two children: Gabriel and Normand

* * *

A l'automne 1945 Jos, Anatole et leur mère Wilhelmina, visitèrent leur parenté, chez Benoit Major, qui restaient sur leur ferme à Guy. Ils furent impressionnés par le vaste et beau paysage. Ils décidèrent de prendre du terrain.

Cet hiver là, Anatole demeura tandis que Jos et sa mère retournèrent vendre la ferme à McKague, Saskatchewan.

Pendant ce temps, Anatole avec l'aide de son oncle et cousin Aldéo coupa du bois et le charroya au moulin à scie de M. Raoul Lambert. Quand Jos revint au printemps le "shack" était bâti. Ensemble ils ont coupé un sentier menant à la ferme d'Anatole.

Cet été fut bien rempli; quatre-vingts acres d'ouverts à la hache, les racines ramassées, pilées et brûlées et la terre prête pour la semence. Malheureusement la récolte d'avoine a gelé tôt à l'automne mais ça ne les a pas arrêtés, avec toute leur détermination, d'ouvrir leur "homestead" d'un coin à l'autre.

Après son mariage avec Rita Kusch, ils ont vécu le premier hiver à Sidney, C.B., où les parents de Rita demeuraient et où Jos travaillait comme menuisier avec son beau-frère.

Travaillant ensemble jusqu'en 1981, les frères Turcotte et ensuite leurs fils, acquérèrent plus de terrain et d'instruments aratoires. Par ce temps, les fils avaient leur propre terre et continuaient à cultiver avec leurs parents.

Rita enseigna à l'école de Guy.

Gabriel, leur fils, se maria à Micheline Ouellet de Tangent.

TURCOTTE, LAUREA (WILHELMINA)

by her daughter, Rita

Mrs. W. Turcotte was born in Orleans, On-

tario, the youngest of a family numbering eighteen children. She was the daughter of Tous-saint Major and Salomé Leblanc. Unfortunately, her mother died when she, Wilhelmina, was thirteen years old. Sadly missing her mother she remained at home with her beloved father until the age of sixteen. By then, a few of her brothers and sisters had already moved west to Saskatchewan. Consequently, her brother, Anatole, paid her fare so she could join them in Ponteix, Saskatchewan. It was here that she worked in a small restaurant owned by her sister, Clothilde Lavoie. While serving tables, she met her prince charming, Léonidas Turcotte, son of Alphonse Turcotte



Grandma Wilhelmina Turcotte, Daniel, Robert, Gabriel Benoit, story time.

and Angèle Gagnon. It was the horse and buggy days when young men tried to outdo each other with the sleekest, most spirited horse and finest buggy! Following several romantic buggy rides the two were married in Swift Current, Saskatchewan and homesteaded in Frenchville. The drought obliged them to move elsewhere so they settled in Albertville, Saskatchewan to farm. Shortly after, in 1925, Mrs. Turcotte lost her husband at the age of thirty, a victim of pneumonia. In her loving, dedicated care he left six children. A widow's pension, then was thirty dollars a month. Nonetheless, her children remember being well fed and clothed. She used to sew long hours into the night ripping good second-hand clothes and transforming them into new wardrobes. Most of all, they remember her unselfish devotion and her charity and forgiveness to others.

In 1936, enticed by her brother, Anatole, Mrs. W. Turcotte moved to McKague, Saskatchewan with her family in view of establishing the boys on the farm. War broke out in 1939. During the

war her youngest son, Gabriel, was killed in action, adding another blow for her to bear bravely.

News from relatives about fertile homestead land available in northern Alberta made her decide to move with her two sons, Anatole and Joseph, to Guy, Alberta in 1946. She filed a half section, S $\frac{1}{2}$ 30-75-19-W5. For the first year, she was the only lady in the new area. The following year her daughter, Rita, moved to Alberta to be close by.

Timber wolves were common place then. One wolf persisted in his nightly raids near her bedroom window. So, one night she tied a string to a large chunk of meat connected to a bell near her bed. Sure enough in the darkness of the night, the wolf rang the bell but again he got away before being shot! Obviously, Mrs. Turcotte enjoyed a challenge, was creative and did not hesitate to partake in a good joke.

Laurea Wilhelmina Major: n.16-01-1897 m.25-07-1916 d.16-08-1975

Léonidas Turcotte: n.21-06-1895 d.16-10-1925

CHILDREN:

1. Gertrude: n.20-05-1917 m.06-09-1941
 Osias Roy: n.20-05-1908
 - a) Jeannine: n.03-03-1943 m.07-06-1970
 Antonio Lombardo. They have two daughters.
 - b) Denis: n.18-06-1947 m.20-06-1982
 Lucita Romero: n.02-11-1959. They have three children.
 - c) Gloria: n.07-05-1948 m.26-06-1971
 Marcel Dagenais: n.03-09-1936. They have three children.
 - d) Bernard: n.08-12-1949
 - e) Irene: n.18-08-1952 m.06-07-1974
 Wayne Thomas: n.05-01-1944. They have two children.
 - f) Lucille: n.19-02-1954
 - g) Yvette: n.10-03-1955 m.14-02-1976
 Gérard Lagacé: n.05-05-1952. They have three children.
2. Anatole: n.21-01-1919 m.30-10-1950
 Germaine Brulotte: n.15-06-1932 (See Turcotte, Anatole)
3. Joseph: n.26-02-1920 m.27-12-1950
 Rita Kusch: n.01-09-1924 (See Turcotte, Joseph)
4. Marguerite: n.24-09-1921 m.21-01-1946 d.28-09-1982
 Kenneth Freeman: n.23-10-1923. They have three children.
5. Gabriel: n.24-02-1923 d.28-10-1944
6. Rita: n.23-09-1924 m.26-06-1954
 Raymond Benoit: n.01-04-1923 (See Benoit, Raymond)

(In memory of Mrs. Laurea (Wilhelmina) Turcotte; (Jan. 16, 1898 - Aug. 16, 1975)

MY DEAR OLD GRAM

That night started like any other
With even a kiss from my wonderful grandmother,
My dear old Gram.
That night I couldn't sleep
Yet in the house there wasn't a peep.

When my brother came home that night
My grandmother wanted to pick green tomatoes at midnight.
She thought it was going to freeze
So I went only to please
My dear old Gram.

We had picked a couple of pails
When she said she had a slight chest pain.
So we started for home
The two of us all alone.

When we reached the door
The geese gave three lone honks; one each, no more.
She took a quick look around the place
And stated with a loving smile on her face
Ah! Those geese, during the day I chase them,
Get mad at them and they turn to fight
But, yet, they have the heart to say Good-bye or Good-night!

I had just started to fall asleep
When my brother called for my mother.
I recall that they helped her down
And headed for town
With my dear old Gram.
Doing ninety through the town
With the cops right behind them
Went my dear old Gram.
When the phone rang at 1:40
No one needed to tell me what it meant.

The one who gave us so much love
Even more than a pair of doves;
The one who was so kind, so gentle, and so extremely wonderful
Was no longer with us.
My dear old Gram!
But yet to this day we still love her,
We always have and always will.

Written by her grandson, Robert Benoit at the age of fourteen
shortly after his grandmother's death, August 16, 1975.

* * *

Wilhelmina est né à Orléans, Ontario, la plus jeune d'une famille de 18 enfants de Tous-saint Major et Salomé Leblanc. Sa mère mourut alors qu'elle avait treize ans. A l'âge de seize ans, elle rejoint son frère Anatole à Ponteix, Sask. Elle travailla dans le restaurant de sa soeur Clothilde Lavoie et c'est là quelle rencontra Léonidas Turcotte, fils d'Alphonse Turcotte et Angèle Gagnon. Après leur mariage ils prirent "homestead" à Frenchville et Albertville, Sask. En 1925, Léonidas est mort, victime d'une pneumonie. Elle a dû prendre soin de six enfants sur une pension de veuve de \$30.00 par mois. Habile couturière, elle a souvent défait des vêtements usagés pour les refaire pour sa famille.

En 1936 elle déménagea à McKague, Sask., sur le conseil de son frère, Anatole, et aussi en vu d'établir ses garçons sur des fermes. En 1939, son plus jeune fils, Gabriel, est tué en action à la deuxième guerre mondiale.

En 1946, en apprenant qu'il y a de bonnes terres fertiles à Guy elle décida de venir s'y installer avec ses fils, Anatole et Joseph. Elle a "filé" sur S¹/₂-30-75-19-W5. Elle était la première femme à s'établir à huit milles à l'ouest de Guy. L'année suivante, sa fille, Rita, déménagea aussi à Guy.

TURCOTTE, PAUL & JOHNSON, NORMA

by Norma Johnson Turcotte

We moved into Falher for two and a half years with Paul's parents Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Turcotte. We built a new house on the farm five



Paul & Norma Turcotte farm NE 1/4-29-76-21-5.

miles north of Guy on NE-29-76-21-W5, and moved in April 1964. The children started school in Guy and switched to Falher in 1972. We farmed in partnership with Paul's father and brother Roland. We sold the farm in 1974 and Paul continued to work for the owners until 1977.

We bought a house and moved into Falher. Paul Turcotte: n.03-03-1940 m.04-02-1961

Norma Johnson: n.24-02-1939

CHILDREN:

1. Cheryl: n.25-07-1961
Legal Secretary, Edmonton
2. Denis: n.28-02-1963
Carpenter, Falher
3. Suzanne: n.04-01-1965
Registered nurse, Peace River
4. Donald: n.16-05-1966
Studying at the U.of A., Edmonton

* * *



R.1 Suzanne. R.2 Paul, Norma. R.3 Donald, Cheryl, Denis.

Nous sommes déménagés à Falher pour deux ans et demi avec les parents de Paul, M. et Mme Bruno Turcotte. Nous bâtîmes une nouvelle maison sur la ferme à cinq milles au nord de Guy et y déménagions en avril 1964. Les enfants ont commencé l'école à Guy et continuèrent à Falher en 1972. Nous cultivions en association avec le père de Paul et Roland. Nous avons vendu la ferme en 1974 et Paul a continué à travailler pour les propriétaires jusqu'en 1977. Nous avons acheté une maison et déménagé à Falher.

TURNER, LLOYD & KENNINGS, IRENE

by Lloyd

Lloyd Turner was born in Woodrow, Sask. September 26, 1927, to Arthur and Jane Lenton.

Lloyd was married to Irene Kennings on July 4, 1964, and moved to the Guy area from High



Mervin Brulotte & Lloyd Turner and Mrs. Julie Hupp.

Prairie in 1966. The family lived in a granary until 1967 when the house was built. At that time the roads were just dirt and the highway was gravelled. Lloyd and his family found it difficult to adjust to a very French community after leaving an English town.

Lloyd: n.26-09-1927 m.04-07-1964

Irene Kennings: n.10-03-1930 d.16-12-1980

CHILDREN:

1. Vern: n.14-04-1948 m.15-01-1972
Janet Senko
2. Alberta: n.16-06-1949 m.18-09-1966
Gary Buettner
3. Alfred: n.12-07-1953 m.03-02-1973
Gisele Bastien
4. Diane: n.31-03-1955 m.26-08-1973
Harvey Blais
5. Judith: n.24-04-1956 m.13-06-1981
Gerald McDermott
6. Cathy: n.14-02-1959
7. Thomas: n.24-08-1961 m.20-09-1980
Leslie Sanders
8. Dorothy: n.29-10-1964 m.11-02-1984
Peter Baker

Lloyd also had two brothers living in this part of the community. Roy and Alf moved to this area after the war. They both got land through the V.L.A. and they both were farmers. Lloyd first came to this area in 1953 and helped his brothers farm. Eventually he settled in High Prairie in 1956, working for O'Brian Lumber Co. for 17 years. Upon closure of the company he worked for Buchanan Lumber where he is still employed.

* * *

Fils de Arthur et Jane Lenton, Lloyd Turner naissait à Woodrow, Saskatchewan, le 26 septembre 1927.

Le 4 juillet 1964, Lloyd épousait Irene Kennings et quitta High Prairie pour aller vivre à Guy en 1966. En attendant qu'une maison soit construite, ils vécurent dans une grainerie. A ce temps là il n'y avait que des routes de terre, et la grande route était gravellée.

Lloyd avait aussi deux frères qui vivaient dans cette région, Roy et Alf qui s'y étaient établis après la guerre. Ils obtinrent les terres grâce à l'octroi du département des vétérans, et tous deux devinrent fermiers. Lloyd vint dans cette région en 1953 puis il aida ses frères sur leur ferme. Eventuellement, en 1956, il s'établit à High Prairie où il fut employé par O'Brian Lumber Co, pendant 17 ans. Quand cette compagnie ferma ses portes il se mit à travailler pour Buchanan Lumber, où il y est jusqu'à ce jour.

TURNER, ROY & HARPER, DOROTHY

by Roy Turner

I, W. Roy Turner, was born in Woodrow, Saskatchewan on October 11, 1921. After finishing school I worked for local farmers and also drove the fuel truck making farm deliveries of gas and oil. This was towards the end of the hungry 30's and there were certainly few jobs if any to choose from. After the war broke out I tried to enlist with my brothers but was rejected because of eye trouble. I was later accepted and joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps and was stationed in Prince Albert and Regina, Saskatchewan. When I received my discharge I planned to farm near my home town of Woodrow. In July, 1946 we had a severe hail storm that put the finish to all crops in the area. My brother, Alfred Turner, was getting ready to leave for the Peace River country to take up a homestead near a town called Donnelly. His brother-in-law and several other ex-servicemen had started "Smoky Farm Industries" in that same area. Due to the bleak situation in southern Saskatchewan, I decided to come with my brother, Alfred, and look things over.

We arrived in Donnelly on August 26th, 1946 (just after the big snow storm) and travelled eighteen miles south over the worst road we had ever been on, to the "Little Smoky Farm Industries" settlement. I worked that fall with the boys from the "Industries". The families living there at that time were Len Wright's, Leo Hamson's, Ed Hamson's, Fred Bullen's, John Hiscox's, and Bill Pacaud's. That first winter I worked with Tony Perras driving a truck to haul ice from the river.



Susan, Roy, Victoria, Kathy, Dorothy, Elizabeth Turner in 1986.

The balance of the winter I worked at the Honore Maisonneuve sawmill.

In the spring of 1947 I got my homestead through the Veterans Land Act. It was the E $\frac{1}{2}$ -10-75-20-W5thM. That year I built a 14' x 20' small house and in the fall left for Toronto to work during the winter months. A person, unless wealthy, had to work out every winter to make enough money to work on the farm all summer. Working clearing the land, driving cat for "Smoky Industries", and working down east in the winter was a way of life for the first few years. On January 29, 1949 I was married in Toronto to Dorothy J. Harper. We still continued to return to Toronto for the winters until our first daughter, Elizabeth Ann, was born on March 19th, 1951. During the winter months of 1953 I worked at the Lethbridge Airport and on December 29th of that year our second daughter, Kathleen Marie, was born. From that year on we stayed around home for the winters. Our third daughter, Susan Jane, was born in High Prairie on July 28th, 1956. Victoria Jean, our fourth and last daughter was also born in High Prairie, on March 5, 1965.

During the years of 1956-1962 I spent the winters cutting and hauling pulpwood from the Goose River, Enilda, Kinuso, and High Prairie areas. Following 1962 I was several winters working with Jack Burley with P.F.A. (Prairie Farm Assistance). After the crop was in, my main job during the summers of those years was road



Roy & Dorothy's home in 1963.

work. I did a lot of the final finishing on the highways around Guy and to High Prairie. And of course there was always cat work, brushing, and piling to clear new homesteads in the area.

We enjoyed our years on the farm and had a lot of good neighbours. When we first moved out there our closest neighbours were Kellies, Lindals, Hupps, Brulottes (Frank and Delphis), Drouins, and Delage. And a short time later the Melvin Brulotte. My brother Alf's land was the half section straight south of mine. In 1953 another brother of mine, Lloyd, came to stay with us and later also took up land five miles east of us. The girls all attended the school in Guy and then the high school in Donnelly. Our nearest church was St. Mark's Anglican in High Prairie, so it was great when we finally had a good highway into High Prairie. All the girls were baptized and confirmed in High Prairie. We enjoyed curling for a few years with several rinks from the Guy area participating in the McLennan curling club. We were both long time members and workers with "Pioneer Threshermen's Assoc." at Triangle. I was the president for many years and we are both now lifetime members. We sold our farm in 1983 to Paul Gagnon and have retired to Grande Prairie to be closer to our girls and their families. You will often find us down in the Guy area visiting old neighbours and friends.

Roy Turner: n. 11-10-1921 m. 29-01-1949

Dorothy Harper: n.

CHILDREN:

1) Elizabeth: n. 19-03-1951 m. 21-11-1970

Rene Giroux:

a) Suzanne: n. 06-07-1975

They are presently living in Fox Creek, Alberta, where they run their own business.

2) Kathleen: n. 29-12-1953 m. 04-11-1972

Gilbert Gervais:

a) Tammy: n. 14-12-1975

b) Carrie: n. 21-01-1978

They are living in Grande Prairie, Alberta, where Kathy is the Personnel Co-ordinator for the Canadian Forest Products Limited and Gilbert is working in the plumbing field.

3) Susan: n. 28-07-1956 m. 11-10-1975

Marcel Brulotte:

a) Nancy: n. 01-01-1977

b) Michael: n. 12-03-1982

They are living in Grande Prairie, Alberta where Marcel is employed as a foreman with Canadian Forest Products Limited.

4) Victoria: n. 05-03-1965 m. 06-10-1984

Paul Maynard:

They also live in Grande Prairie, Alberta where Vicki is employed with the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital and Paul is employed with Canadian Forest Products Limited.

* * *

Après avoir terminé l'école je travaillai pour des fermiers de Woodrow et aussi à conduire des camions-citernes pour livrer essence et huile aux fermiers. C'était à la fin des années trente et l'emploi était rare. Quand la guerre a éclaté j'ai voulu m'enrôler avec mes frères mais j'ai été refusé à cause d'une déficience aux yeux. Je fus accepté plus tard et rejoignis la "Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps" et fut stationné à Prince Albert et Regina.

Après ma démobilisation je rejoignis mon frère Alfred dans le "Smoky Farm Industries". Nous arrivons à Donnelly le 26 août 1946 et ensuite dix-huit milles par des chemins impossibles. Cet automne-là je travaillai avec les vétérans. Les familles résidant là étaient Len Wright, Léo Hamson, Ed Hamson, Fred Bullen, John Hiscox et Bill Pacaud. A l'hiver je travaillai avec Tony Perras conduisant un camion pour transporter de la glace et ensuite pour Honoré Maisonneuve au moulin à scie.

Au printemps de 1947 j'ai obtenu mon "homestead" à travers l'acte des vétérans (V.L.A.). Je me bâtis une maison de 14 pieds x 20 pieds et à l'automne allai travailler à Toronto.

Travailler à ouvrir du terrain, conduire le tracteur-chenille pour le "Smoky Industries" en été et travailler dans l'Est l'hiver devint une façon de vivre.

Après mon mariage à Dorothy J. Harper, nous continuions à retourner à Toronto durant l'hiver jusqu'à la naissance de notre première fille. L'hiver de 1953 je travaillai à l'aéroport de Lethbridge et ceux de 1956-1962 à couper et charroyer du bois de pulpe de Goose River, Enilda, Kinuso et High Prairie.

Après 1962, je travaillai avec Jack Burley du

Prairie Farm Assistance. Sitôt la récolte entrée je travaillai sur les chemins autour de Guy et de High Prairie. Nous avons joui de nos années sur la ferme et de bons voisins tels que les Kellies, Lindals, Hupps, Brulotte (François et Delphis), Drouin et Delage et Melvin Brulotte. Nos quatre filles ont fréquenté l'école de Guy et la haute école de Donnelly.

Notre église était St. Mark's Anglican, à High Prairie. C'est là que nos filles ont été baptisées et confirmées.

En 1983 nous avons vendu notre ferme à Paul Gagnon et sommes retirés à Grande Prairie pour être plus près de nos filles et de leurs familles. Nous revenons souvent à Guy visiter nos anciens voisins et amis.

VANDAL, EMILE & RICKARD, JESSIE EDITH

by Mrs. John Winnicky

Jessie Edith, daughter of Edward Rickard and Lucia Zapshala was born in Goodeve, Saskatchewan. She came to the Ballater area with her family. In 1929, she married Emile Vandal.

Emile Vandal: m. 1929

Jessie Edith Rickard n. 01-01-1913 d. 28-07-1938 07-1938

CHILDREN:

1. Gordon Joseph n. 11-01-1931

2. Joyce n. 26-05-1932

She lives in Powell River, B.C.

3. Alvin Kenneth n. 11-03-1934

He lives in Queen Charlotte Island, B.C.

* * *

Jessie Edith est née à Goodeve, Saskatchewan. Elle vint dans la région de Ballater avec sa famille. En 1929, elle épousa Emile Vandal.

VERDON, NOE

by

Mr. Verdon filed on SE 7-76-21 in 1928 and had it patented in 1932. He lived, however, on SE 31-76-21 where he had built a good log shack on the south bank of Slim's Creek east of the road. He was a very sociable bachelor who kept his house very clean. He had been to the Klondike where he had made the acquaintance of Mr. Omer Boisvert. It was at Mr. Verdon's house that Mr. Boivert stayed on his first night here.

* * *

M. Verdon prit un "homestead" en 1928 et en obtint la propriété en 1932. Il bâtit un bon "shack" en bois rond sur la rive sud de Slim's



Noe Verdon's shack built early 20's.

Creek à l'est de la route. Il était un célibataire très sociable qui tenait sa maison très propre. Il avait été au Klondike où il avait fait la connaissance de M. Omer Boisvert. C'est chez M. Verdon que M. Boisvert demeura le premier soir de son arrivée.

VERSTRAETE, DAVID & DOUCET, LOUISE

by David Verstraete

I was born on January 31, 1945 to Elie Verstraete and Hanna Altheim. We lived on the family farm 3 miles west and 2 miles north of Guy. As a youngster, I remember making many trips to the Ballater Store and Post Office which was just across the road from home.



R.1 Louise & Kevin. R.2 Leroy & David.

I completed grades one and two in Guy. As there were no school buses, my older sister Bernice and I boarded in the Guy Convent under the management of the Holy Cross Sisters. These two years I found very difficult as we had to bring our own food and do our own cooking. Fortunately, Bernice took care of the cooking. Speaking only English, we had many frustrating and difficult times learning the French Language which was spoken in the convent. For grades three through eight we attended McLennan Separate School. Four of my sisters and I boarded in the convent with the Sisters of Providence. The last four years of school I attended the Falher College.



Elie & David, 1947. David started farming at an early age.

After graduating, I went to work in the oil-patch; first as a swamper and then a truck driver moving oil rigs. I would return home every spring and fall to help with the farm work.

In 1966, I bought Mr. Lucien Gagnon's farm two miles west of Falher, (NW-6-78-21-W5 and SE-8-78-21-W5), and started farming in a partnership with Dad.



Four generations of Verstraetes. 25 years between generations. Henry 75 years, David 25 years, Elie 50 years, Leroy 5 months.

On November 25, 1967 Louise and I got married. Louise is the eldest daughter of Aristide (Ted) Doucet and Maria Morin of Falher. We lived on our newly acquired farm west of Falher for the next eight years. During this time, our two sons Leroy and Kevin were born.

In 1974, we bought my parent's farm consisting of 5 quarters. A new house replaced the old family house in 1975, when we moved back to the farm. In 1976, I bought Uncle Levie's place (SE 29-76-21-W5) from Cousin Leo, thus retaining most of my grandfather Henry Verstraete's original farm. I supplemented my farm income by returning to the oil-patch every winter until 1983. We presently live on and work the original family farm.

David E. Verstraete: n.31-01-1945 m.25-11-1967

Louise Doucet: n.11-06-1946

CHILDREN:

1. Leroy: n.02-02-1970

2. Kevin: n.07-02-1974

* * *

Nous demeurions sur la ferme familiale à 3 milles à l'ouest et 2 milles au nord de Guy. J'ai complété la première et deuxième année à l'école de Guy. Puisqu'il n'y avait pas d'autobus scolaire, Bernice et moi restions au couvent de Guy. Ne parlant que l'anglais, nous avons eu des moments frustrants et difficiles car le français était la langue parlée au couvent.

Une fois mes études terminées, je suis allé travailler à l'industrie du pétrole. Je revenais à la maison à chaque printemps et automne pour aider à la ferme.

En 1966, j'achetai la ferme de M. Lucien Gagnon à deux milles à l'ouest de Falher et commençai à cultiver en association avec mon père.

Après notre mariage nous demeurions sur notre ferme pendant huit ans. Nos deux enfants sont nés durant ce temps.

En 1974, nous achetions la ferme de mes parents, et y bâtissions une nouvelle maison.

En 1976, j'ai acheté l'emplacement d'oncle Lévi de mon cousin Léo, retenant ainsi presque tout le terrain ayant appartenu à mon grand-père, Henry Verstraete. L'hiver je retournais travailler aux puits de pétrole jusqu'en 1983. Nous vivons présentement sur la ferme familiale.

VERSTRAETE, ELIE & ALTHEIM, JOHANNA

by Johanna (Altheim) Verstraete

Elie was born on July 24, 1920 in Villeneuve,



Elie & Anna Verstraete.

Alberta. In 1927 his parents, Henry and Mina and family of five moved to Falher. Elie took his schooling in Falher. He was very happy to leave school to help his Dad with the farming. There was a lot of new land to break and prepare for seeding.

In 1940-41, Elie attended the Vermilion School of Agriculture with his brother Levie and several other local boys. This is where Elie and Johanna (known better as Hanna) met. I was born in 1923 in Lamont, Alberta. My parents Joseph and Katherine Altheim immigrated to Canada in 1921 from Austria, Europe and farmed in the Fort Saskatchewan district. I have one sister Olga living in Edmonton.

Because of a very late and wet fall in 1941, Elie and Levie were not able to return to school to finish their second year of their agriculture course. I graduated from Olds School of Agriculture in Home Economics in the spring of 1942. On December 29, 1942 we were married in Edmonton at St. Joachim's Church. The next day we rode the N.A.R. to Falher to arrive in time for the New Year's Eve frolic in McLennan. That was my first train ride!

In the summer of 1942, Elie's parents decided to split their town house in two, moving half of the house on S¹/₂-29- 76-31-W5, their home base and Levie's future home. The other half of the house was moved 2 miles further south on

W¹/₂-29- 76-21-W5 where we made our home. Renovations and additions to the split buildings provided comfortable homes.

Elie's parents moved to Edmonton in 1944. Elie and Levie rented their Dad's land and worked together. Then Elie bought the land and with our son David, they farmed a father-son partnership.

We did mixed farming during our first twelve years. With cows, pigs and chickens we had lots to eat. I loved gardening so the basement larder was always full. We had a family of six, one boy and five girls. There is no place like the farm to raise healthy children. They attended school in Guy and McLennan and when the school buses started to run in the Ballater district, the girls went back to Guy and David went to Falher College where he graduated. Bernice and Sylvianne finished school in Guy. By this time the high school was transferred to Donnelly. Joanne, Lorraine and Darlene graduated in Donnelly.



Elie Verstraete hauling water from the Smoky River to Falher.

Besides farming Elie did trucking. In 1943 he went up the Alcan highway to Whitehorse just when it was being built. He had many hair-raising experiences. At home he did custom work hauling grain, lumber and logs. When oil was discovered he drove trucks for oil and truck companies, moving oil rigs. This was all winter work.

In 1974, David bought our farm and we moved to Falher, where I still live. Elie worked for the town for a year, then he bought a half share in a gravel truck which he operated until he became ill. In 1979, he sold his share of the company to his partner. He passed away February 1, 1979.

Elie Verstraete: n.24-07-1920 m.29-12-1942 d.01-02-1979

Johanna Altheim: n.14-03-1923



R.1 Joanne, Lorraine, Darlene. R.2 Bernice, Hanna, David, Sylvianne. R.3 Top left: Elie.

CHILDREN:

1. Bernice: n.14-10-1943 m.03-12-1966
Yvon Gosselin: n.25-02-1940
a) Lynne: n.13-03-1968
b) Debra: n.12-04-1970
2. David: n.31-01-1945 m.25-11-1967
Louise Doucet: n.11-06-1946
(See Verstraete, David)
3. Sylvianne: n.22-02-1946 m.05-11-1971
Clark Van Steinburg: n.07-03-1942
a) Cindy: n.08-09-1973
b) Niilo: n.01-07-1976
- Kenneth Curtz: n.02-04-1943 2.m.01-12-1986
4. Joanne: n.21-04-1947 m.12-10-1968
Walter Kondratiuk: n.20-07-1941
a) Steven: n.05-04-1970
b) Kirk: n.31-07-1973
c) Brandy: n.14-07-1975
5. Lorraine: n.01-01-1951 m.04-07-1970
Simon Kosolofski: n.11-06-1938
a) Christina: n.11-10-1970
b) Jolene: n.21-10-1974
- Percy Nelson: n.05-11-1944 2.m.22-12-1984
6. Darlene: n.13-09-1954 m.24-08-1974
Guy Fortin: n.21-03-1957
L. Reed King: n.16-06-1942 2.m.16-01-1985

* * *

De Villeneuve, Alberta Elie déménagea à Falher avec ses parents en 1927. Elie fréquentait l'école de Falher mais était heureux de laisser l'école pour aider son père à la culture.

En 1940-1941, Elie alla à l'école d'agriculture de Vermilion avec son frère Lévie et plusieurs autres garçons locaux. C'est là qu'Elie et Johanna se rencontrèrent.

J'ai gradué de l'école d'agriculture de Olds

en économie domestique au printemps de 1942. Le 29 décembre 1942 on s'est épousé à l'église St. Joachim à Edmonton. Le lendemain nous prenions le train pour Falher.

Les parents d'Elie déménagèrent à Edmonton en 1944. Elie et Lévie louèrent le terrain et travaillèrent ensemble. Ensuite Elie acheta le terrain et avec son fils, David, ils formèrent une association père-fils.

On fit de la culture mixte durant les premiers douze ans. Avec des vaches, porcs et volailles, nous avions de quoi manger. J'aimais jardiner.

En plus de la culture, Elie était camionneur pour diverses compagnies.

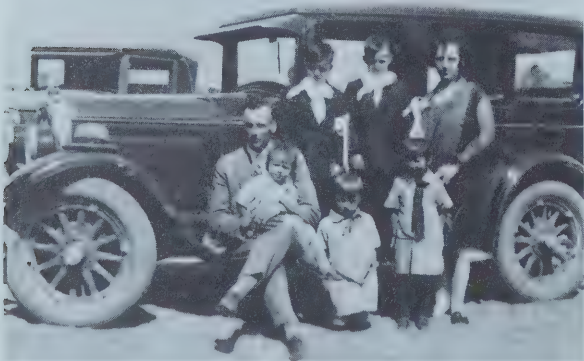
En 1974, David acheta notre ferme et nous déménagâmes à Falher où je demeure encore. Elie travailla pour le village pendant un an, ensuite acheta une demie part d'un camion à gravier qu'il opéra jusqu'à ce qu'il devienne malade. En 1979, il vendit sa part à son partenaire. Il mourut le 1 février 1979.

VERSTRAETE, HENRY & COMEAU, MINA

by Denese (Verstraete) Nekrash

Henry Octave Verstraete was born April 27, 1894 in St. Albert, Alberta; son of Camille Verstraete who immigrated to Villeneuve from Belgium in 1891 and Caroline Majeau born in St. Albert. Henry married Marie Virginie (Mina) Comeau, daughter of Louis Comeau and Artemise Savoie who immigrated to Villeneuve from St. Joseph, Kansas about 1891. Mina now resides in British Columbia close to her daughter Denese.

After Henry and Mina's wedding on November 27, 1916 in Villeneuve, they settled on a farm north of Villeneuve and remained there for 10 years, during which time their children



R.1 Henry holding Denese, Elza & Rolande. R.2 Elie, Lévie & Mina Verstraete in 1929.

were born. The farm in Villeneuve was far from any school so Henry applied and got the International Harvester Agency for Bonnyville. When Henry heard that Mr. Alphonse Côté had his International Harvester Agency for sale in Falher, he and Mina travelled by rail to Falher and liked what they saw: a good school taught by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, a church, a house and a business. They decided to move to Falher.

They sold the farm in Villeneuve and auctioned the horses, stock and machinery. Henry had his fortune told by Mrs. Lafontaine a renowned fortune teller. She predicted that Henry was going north, his present farm sat on great riches and a big fire loomed in the future. In spite of the predictions, Henry sold to Alec Ouimet, who later on made a small fortune selling gravel off his land for road building.

In 1927, Henry and Mina packed children, car and belongings on the train and headed for Falher.

The International Harvester Agency proved to be successful. Henry sold many tractors and managed the garage where payments were made mostly on credit. The farmers were poor and the crops brought in little money. Meanwhile, the Hudson's Bay Company auctioned off some of its land, Henry bought a ½ section 9 miles south of Falher (S½-29-76-21- W5) in July, 1928. He also acquired the homestead further south by filing with the Government Office in Peace River (SW-34-75-21-W5) and (NW-27-75-21-W5) 2 miles west of Guy.

Mrs. Lafontaine's third prediction came true in the fall of 1930. On a Saturday night Marguerite Roy (Lionel's sister) was washing our school uniforms in gas. A friction spark caused a fire which soon destroyed the house like a matchbox and spread to the business and garage building. Mina took the children to the safety of Mrs. Martel's across the street while Henry went back into the house to save a few possessions. Fortunately, the wind was blowing away from the hôtel and theatre, so only half the street burned to a rubble.

To make matters worse, the Depression came, and with it, all credit was lost. The crops yielded poorly with some grain selling for 18 cents a bushel. The Bank Hochelaga started seizing land for payment. Premier Aberhart saw the damage inflicted by the bank. He stepped in to take possession of the land saying that taxes come first. The government allowed the farmers six years to pay up, all others only three years.

With the help of many good friends and especially Mr. Forgue who let us live in his house, we survived. That dreadful winter of 1930, Henry hauled goods by truck from Edmonton to

Mrs. DeWindt's store in Falher. It was all a lot of hard work and hardships for 50 cents a day.

Dad turned to farming and in 1935 he bought Mr. Xavier Allain's house. Those were to be our best years in Falher and we recall many happy memories there.



R.1 Henry & Mina. R.2 Denese, Levie, Elza (sitting), Ellie, Rollande.

Elza, Rollande and Denese graduated from high school in Falher and left one by one for Edmonton. Elza and Rollande attended Normal school and became teachers. Denese started nursing at the Misericordia Hospital but ended by becoming a Registered Lab Technologist. In 1938, Henry bought the W $\frac{1}{2}$ -9-76-21-W5 from Walter Beaucamp, this land later became Elie's home place. Levie and Elie attended the Vermilion School of Agriculture in 1940-41. Henry and Mina retired to Edmonton in 1944.

Henry Verstraete: n.27-04-1894 m.27-11-1916 d.11-03-1978

Mina Comeau: n.26-10-1897

CHILDREN:

1. Levie: n.18-02-1919 m.19-07-1947 d.08-02-1974

Marguerite Cloutier: n.28-07-1928
(See Verstraete, Levie)

2. Elie: n.24-07-1920 m.29-12-1942 d.01-02-1979

Johanna Altheim: n.14-03-1923
(See Verstraete, Elie)

3. Elza: n.28-03-1922 m.05-07-1949

Stanley Bienert. They have four sons and two daughters (Beverly and Brian died in a car accident in 1955), Debbie, Bradley, Rodney, and Derrick.

4. Rollande: n.16-08-1923 m.18-07-1946 Wilfrid Paquette. They have two sons and one daughter, Donald, Paulette, and Paul.
5. Denese: n.27-02-1925 m.18-07-1946 Charles Nekrash. They have four sons and one daughter, Henry, Stanley, Kenneth, Darlene, and Terrance.

* * *

Après leur mariage Henry et Mina s'installèrent sur une ferme au nord de Villeneuve et y demeurèrent pour dix ans durant lesquels leurs enfants naquirent. La ferme était éloignée des écoles alors Henry appliqua pour l'agence International Harvester à Bonnyville. Quand Henry apprit que M. Alphonse Côté avait son agence International Harvester à vendre à Falher il y vint avec sa femme et aima ce qu'il vit: une bonne école, une église, une maison et un commerce. Ils décidèrent de déménager à Falher.

Ils vendirent la ferme à Villeneuve et firent encan des chevaux, bêtes à cornes et machines aratoires. En 1927 Henry, Mina et famille se rendirent à Falher. L'agence International Harvester fut un succès mais les paiements étaient à crédit. Les fermiers étaient pauvres et les récoltes apportaient peu d'argent. Entre temps, la compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson fit un encan d'une partie de ses terres. Henry acheta une demi-section à neuf milles au sud de Falher. Il acquit aussi un 'homestead' plus au sud.

A l'automne de 1930 le feu prit alors que Marguerite Roy lavait nos uniformes dans de l'essence. Ce feu détruisit notre maison et se répandit au commerce et au garage. Mina conduisit les enfants chez Mme Martel à travers la rue.

Pour empirer les choses la crise économique s'installa et tout crédit fut perdu.

Avec l'aide de bons amis spécialement M. Forgue qui nous permit de vivre dans sa maison, nous avons survécu.

Papa se tourna vers la culture et en 1935 il acheta la maison de M. Xavier Allain. Ce furent nos meilleures années à Falher. Elza, Rollande et Denese graduèrent du secondaire à Falher et partirent chacune à leur tour pour Edmonton. Elza et Rollande fréquentèrent l'Ecole normale et devinrent institutrices. Denese commença son cours d'infirmière à l'hôpital Miséricorde mais devint technicienne de laboratoire. En 1938, Henry acheta un quart de Walter Beaucamp qui devint le foyer d'Elie.

VERSTRAETE, LEVIE & CLOUTIER, MARGUERITE

by Johanna Verstraete

Levie, eldest son of Henry and Mina Verstraete was born February 18, 1919 in Villeneuve, Alberta. He moved to Falher with his family in 1927 and attended school there until grade eleven. He was not able to complete his schooling as he had to help with the farm work. He often talked of his desire to finish school and go on to law school. Farming was not his first choice.



Levie & Elie Verstraete.

Levie went to Vermilion School of Agriculture in 1940-41. In July of 1947, he married Marguerite Cloutier of Falher. They lived on the S $\frac{1}{2}$ -29-76-21-W5 which was his father's original home place bought in 1928. They had two sons, Léo and Richard. Levie and Elie farmed together for many years. Later he went to work for his cousins on road construction and rented his land to Elie. Levie passed away on February 8, 1974 in Edmonton at the age of 55 years after a lengthy illness.

Levie Verstraete: n.18-02-1919 m.19-07-1947 d.08-02-1974

Marguerite Cloutier: n.28-07-1928

CHILDREN:

1. Leo: n.19-06-1948
2. Richard: n.14-10-1951

* * *

Lévie déménagea à Falher avec sa famille en 1927 et fréquenta l'école là jusqu'à la onzième année. Il aurait aimé finir son école et étudier le droit.

Il alla à l'école d'Agriculture à Vermilion en 1940-1941. En juillet 1947, il épousa Marguerite Cloutier de Falher. Ils demeurèrent sur le quart que son père avait acheté en 1928. Ils ont eu deux garçons Léo et Richard. Lévie et Elie

cultivèrent ensemble pendant plusieurs années. Plus tard, il alla travailler pour ses cousins sur la construction de chemins et loua son terrain à Elie. Il mourut à Edmonton à l'âge de 55 ans après une longue maladie.

VILLENEUVE, HENRY & LACOURSE, JEANNE

by Lily Chailier

Uncle Henry Villeneuve is the son of Simon Villeneuve and Marie Anne Lavoie. His family moved to Kenora, Ontario at an early age. He spent his youth in Kenora. When of working age, he and his older brothers piloted tug boats hauling log booms to Kewatiss and Kenora for the lumber mills. After a number of years Uncle Henry and Aunt Jeanne moved to Biggar, Saskatchewan where he bought farm land close to where the Lacourse family was established. He had someone cultivate the land and moved to the town of Biggar where he opened up a blacksmith shop. After a few years they moved to St. Boniface, Manitoba owning two butcher shops, one in Winnipeg and one in St. Boniface.



Lilian Boisvert, now Mrs. Bourgeois, a friend, Mrs. Jeanne Villeneuve and Lily Lacourse now Chailier in 1925.

In 1922 they left for Long Beach, California because of the oil boom. The first year they were there he worked in an auto body shop. From there he found employment as a gas fired boiler engineer for the oil fields.

In April of 1928 they arrived in Falher. As wheat was a very good price, Uncle Henry figured he'd buy some land, seed wheat and reap the crops for a couple of years then go back to the States, but the price of grain fell tremendously. He had already spent a great deal of money so had to stay. They bought SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -4-21-71-W5 where Paul Lacourse now resides. While on the farm, Uncle Henry served as trustee and secre-

tary for Ballater School No. 1. Also, in order to open up his land he hired new settlers from Guy to grub with muscle power and not brush cutters. In exchange for their work he broke land for these people. Also while on the farm he perfected a part for J.I. Case tractor which won him an award from the company.



Mrs. Villeneuve, grandnephew Denis Chailier and Mr. Henry Villeneuve in 1955.

In November, 1936 the Falher Co-op was organized by Henry Villeneuve, Paul Z. Pelletier, Marcel Dompnier, Louis Dentinger, Ernest Despins. Uncle Henry was the first manager. In 1940 Mr. Paul Sicotte took over as manager.

From then on they took several trips to B.C. and the States coming back to Falher to retire where they lived until their death. Both passed away at Our Lady of the Lake Nursing Home.

Henry Villeneuve: n. 27-09-1885 m. 25-10-10 d. 27-05-1974

Jeanne Lacourse: n. 08-05-1888 d. 29-07-1972
— daughter of Ferdinand Lacourse and Alphon-
sine Cyrenne of Becancour, Quebec.

* * *

Sa famille déménagea à Kénora, Ontario, quand il était petit. Il vécut sa jeunesse à Kénora. A l'âge de travailler lui et ses grands frères pilotaient des bateaux-remorqueurs balant des billots à Kewatiss et Kenora pour les moulins à bois. Après quelques années, Henri et Jeanne déménagèrent à Biggar, Saskatchewan, où ils achetèrent du terrain près de celui de la famille Lacourse. Il engagea quelqu'un pour cultiver et déménagea à Biggar où il ouvrit une boutique de forgeron. Après quelques années ils déménagèrent à St-Boniface où ils ouvrirent une boucherie et une autre à Winnipeg.

En 1922, ils partirent pour Long Beach, Californie, à cause de la ruée vers l'huile.

*Après avoir travaillé comme débosseur il trouva un emploi comme ingénieur de bouill-
loire à gaz pour les champs pétroliers.*

*En avril 1928, ils arrivèrent à Falher. Comme le prix du blé était bon, il pensa acheter du terrain, le semer et récolter, et retourner aux Etats. Mais le prix dégringola. Il dut rester. Pendant ce temps il devint conseiller et secré-
taire pour l'école Ballater No 1. Il engagea des nouveaux colons pour abattre des arbres et échangea son travail de défrichage avec eux.*

En novembre 1936, Henri devint le premier gérant de la Co-op de Falher. Il fut remplacé par M. Paul Sicotte en 1940. Après cela le couple fit plusieurs voyages en Colombie-Britannique et aux Etats-Unis revenant à Falher pour se retirer. Les deux sont décédés à Notre-Dame du Lac à McLennan.

VINCELETTE, JOSEPH & COTE, JOSEPHINE EDNA

by Yvonne Cécile Vincelette Kjos

My father was born in Quebec and came to the Guy district in the early 1930's. He got a homestead next to the Little Smoky River, five miles S.W. of Guy, where he also had a sawmill.

My mother, born in Langley, Alberta, came to the Falher area in 1931 with her family William and Leah Cote, three brothers and three sisters.

The land by the river was not suited for grain farming, so my father raised sheep and some cattle. He also had land in the Whitemud Creek district.

We also had huge gardens that I am sure are remembered by many in the district, especially the corn, cucumbers and tomatoes. From the



Jos Vincelette, Roy and Josephine Edna.

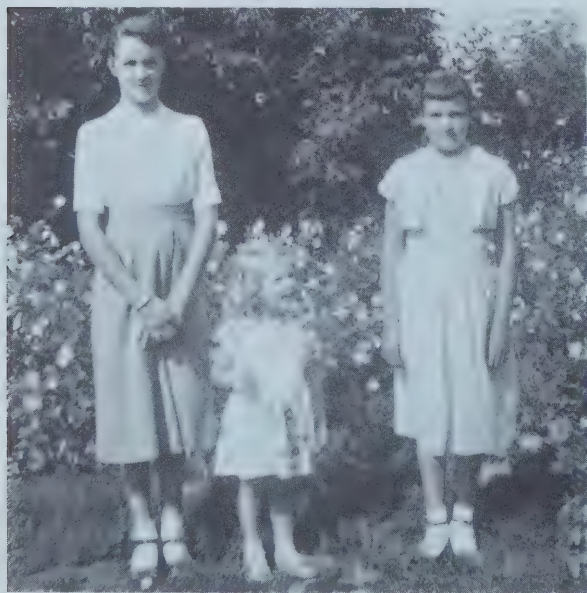
time the corn was first ready to very late fall there was always a pot of corn on the cob sitting on the back of the stove.

It always seemed the first frost came after a rainy spell, and we'd all be out till the wee hours of the morning, trying to cover up every tomato, cucumber and pumpkin plant possible. These were the times we regretted having such large gardens; however the rewards surpassed the aching backs, wet cold feet and frozen hands.

My father also had a gravel pit. Hundreds of yards of gravel and sand went out every summer to all surrounding districts for buildings, sidewalks, roads and even for children's sandboxes.

My older sister Vivian took her first two years of schooling at the Mission in Peace River. Then we both went to school in Guy. The first two years we boarded with the Gagné family. Then the convent was built, so we stayed there for three years while attending school. We lived there during the week and went home on Friday. We had to bring our own food, so it was all packed in a big wooden box the size of a trunk. Mother would have to process everything including milk in jars so it would keep. There was oatmeal for breakfast if one wanted, however it was not eatable as the oatmeal and water was put in a big kettle on the stove the night before, so it could start to cook as soon as the stove was lit in the morning; consequently by the time breakfast rolled around, the porridge resembled and tasted like glue. We ate an awful lot of pablum!

I remember many Fridays in the spring, when some of the roads would get washed out my



Vivian, Linda, Yvonne Vincelette.

sister and I would hitch a ride home with our boxes as far as we could, usually with the Drouin family, to the Jim Gruber corner, leave our boxes along the side the road and walk the three miles home. Then somehow father would manage to get the tractor or horses and stone-boat to pick up our lunch boxes. No way were we staying at the convent longer than we had to.

Winter were quite hard. Often when the weather was very cold, we rode in a "caboose", built on a sleigh. We had a wood heater in our "caboose". That worked just dandy, except when the sleigh went over a snow drift that was higher than expected. This would put the caboose off balance and over it would go, in which case one scrambled for the nearest exit. Then came the struggle to right the caboose and sleigh before a major fire burned down our transportation.

However not all times were bad at the convent. When the moon was bright, we all had to bundle up to go outside to play. Our favorite place was the extra large dugout, where the main sport was tobogganing. Mother Superior nearly always came with us. She could not resist having her share of toboggan rides down the hill too. The older kids got the greatest enjoyment out of trying to tip her over before they got to the bottom. What fiends we were! There was also ice-skating, making angels in the snow, snow ball fights and snow-men building contests. Last but not least, lets not forget the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis). They were a spectacle in themselves.

In the spring or after a major rain, there was the problem of gumbo, another name for clay-like mud that would pack itself tight in the wheels of a vehicle or stick to one's boots till you couldn't walk short of losing your boots.

My father operated the first ferry on the Little Smoky River in the early 1940's. In the spring, after the ice had broken up and the river was still too high for the ferry to operate, one crossed over in a basket that was attached to the ferry tower cable and pulled across by pulling hand over hand on ropes. It was a ride taken out of necessity not for the joy of it.

Home life is much different now than when we were children. We had no electricity or telephone. We had an ice-box instead of a fridge. Ice was cut in blocks from the river and stored in an ice house tightly packed with sawdust. The ice was also used to make ice cream. An ice pick was used to chip off small pieces which were well packed in the ice cream maker between the wooden bucket and the cream container. Then came the tedious chore of turning the handle which



Mrs. Vincelette's flower garden 1937.

rotated the cream container. This process would take from one to two hours. We children did not last too long at the handle. We had an old uncle, George Besse, who lived with us and we could always con him into doing the greatest share of the turning. To this day I have never tasted ice cream quite like my mother could make.

As for running water, well we had that! One ran to the river for water to wash and to a natural spring for drinking water.

By 1954 my sister Vivian and I had had enough of convent life. She quit school and went to work in Peace River. I took grade seven by correspondence and my sister Linda took grade one.

From 1955 to 1959, we went to school in Falher. In 1957 my sister Vivian married Jack Laing and shortly after moved away. She remarried in 1976 to Micheal Gagnon and as of 1981 reside in Squamish, B.C. To date she has two grandchildren.

Linda attended Falher School till 1961. In the fall of 1961, she took a school bus to Guy. The bus came as far as the Thibodeau home, and she walked the three quarter mile up the hill to catch it.

In 1964 she married Ron Wood. In 1966 they moved to Burns Lake, B.C. where Ron was a logger. In 1974 they bought a farm in McBride B.C. They raise cattle and in winter Ron operates his skidder.

In 1959 I went to work in High Prairie, for the Bay. In 1962 I married Lawrence Kjos. I had a farm across the river and we lived on it. In 1964 we moved to Lacombe, Alberta. In 1971 my five children and I moved to Calgary from Edmonton, where we lived until 1981. Then with three of my children I moved to Vernon, B.C. where I bought a grocery and gas business. So far I have been blessed with three beautiful grandchildren.

Writing about my family history has brought back so many fond memories of by-gone times, and now they can be shared by all readers of this book.

Joseph Vincelette: n. 04-03-1899 m. 06-1935 d. 10-1965

Josephine Edna Cote: n. 13-06-1913 d. 12-05-1973

CHILDREN:

1) Roy: n. 28-12-1936 d. 04-07-1973

2) Vivian: n. 21-05-1939 m. 18-05-1957 2m. 20-05-1976
6 children

3) Yvonne: n. 28-09-1941 m. 12-01-1962
5 children

4) Linda: n. 04-02-1948 m. 21-11-1964
2 children

* * *

Mon père vint du Québec dans la région de Guy au début des années 30. Il a pris un "home-stead" près de la petite Smoky, à cinq milles au sud-ouest de Guy où il avait aussi un moulin à scie.

Native de Langley, Alberta, ma mère vint dans la région de Falher avec ses parents, trois frères et trois soeurs.

Comme le terrain près de la rivière n'était pas propice à la culture du grain, mon père éleva des moutons et des bêtes à cornes. Il avait aussi du terrain dans la région de Whitemud Creek.

Nous avons aussi de grands jardins où nous récoltions du blé d'inde, concombres et tomates. Mon père avait aussi une carrière de gravier. Ce gravier servait aux bâtiments, trottoirs, routes et boîtes de sable pour enfants.

Ma soeur aînée a fréquenté la Mission à Peace River les deux premières années. Ensuite nous sommes allées à Guy. Nous avons pensionné chez M. Gagné pendant deux ans et ensuite au couvent pour trois ans.

Au couvent nous avions aussi du bon temps. Nous aimions aller jouer dehors près du grand étang où nous glissions en toboggan. Mère Supérieure venait presque toujours avec nous et elle avait son tour pour glisser aussi. Nous patinions, faisions des anges dans la neige, des luttes de balles de neige et des concours de bonhomme de neige. Et enfin, les aurores boréales. Elles étaient un spectacle en elles-mêmes.

Mon père fut le premier opérateur du traversier de la petite Smoky dans les années quarante. Au printemps on traversait dans un panier attaché à un câble de la tour et tiré à la

main. On y voyageait par nécessité et non par plaisir.

La vie au foyer était différente: pas d'électricité ni de téléphone. Nous avions une glacière pour réfrigérateur.

En 1954 ma soeur Vivian laissa l'école et partit travailler à Peace River. Moi, je fis ma septième année par correspondance et ma petite soeur Linda, sa première année.

De 1955 à 1959 nous sommes allées à l'école de Falher. En 1961, Linda alla à l'école de Guy en autobus scolaire.

VOWDEN, FREDERICK, J. "FRED"

by Charlotte Vowden Howe

The eldest son of James and Charlotte Vowden arrived on September 2, 1881 in Wiltshire, England. As a youngster he was adventurous, mischievous, attended Sunday school and belonged to choirs. He had a great love of the sea—side spending many hours there alone, and with friends, playing or digging shell fish. Many a tale he told of his boyhood pranks with teachers, parsons and other people, much of course, to their displeasure, but to his great delight. He also took in stride punishments received for his trouble. His father and grandfather were sea captains and hoped he would follow in their footsteps. Even though he had a great love of the sea, that occupation was not for him. In his late teens he decided he wanted to become a blacksmith. He went to apprentice under the tutors of an older



Mrs. Vowden with her brother, Harry Restall.

man of whom he became very fond. The work was hot, long hours and little remuneration. Through these years he became interested in photography, and learned to develop his own films. He finally owned three bicycles and two motorcycles, travelling all over England, Scotland and Wales, during time off and holidays taking pictures. In some respect he was a loner.

The war changed his life, he couldn't join the forces as his trade wouldn't allow it. He was assigned to work in an ammunition factory where he was very dissatisfied. Many a day was an eighteen hour one.

His youngest brother, George, was home on leave, and told him about what he had heard about Canada. He was interested, so they too started planning for post-war adventures. Fred was to leave England in March 1919, but since families had preference he couldn't board the ship, he was a cook on another ship. Arrangements were made and Fred made his way to Montreal as a stow-away; an experience he never forgot. In Montreal, he boarded a train for the West. He wondered more than once what he had got himself into. He was met at the train by Mr. Martel and taken to the hotel, where he found out what clothes and provisions to buy. With a crude map he started out to Guy to meet his brother and Harold Restall. The trails were crude, the walking difficult as it was very wet that June, 1919 and hoards of mosquitoes were about. At the appointed place, he met the other two men.



Fred Vowden seeding on his homestead 1929.

They started to build a log shack on Harry's land, and finished it in November. They spent the first long hard winter together. The next year Fred and his brother built their own shack on George's land. All chores inside and out were shared changing over weekly. They asked questions, sent away for books and pamphlets, thus finding how to adapt and survive through their new way of life. Winter, it seems, was the worst season of all. Not only did they have to acquire the proper clothing but also learn how to care for them which was a task in itself since all washing had to be done by hand.

Fred was the chief cook, doing more experimenting with food than George. They both loved

rice pudding, and asked Ed Brenner how to make it. Fred thought he would make ample and ended up with pans full! Lesson learned and a good laugh was had. Through reading, they learned how to care for their livestock, Fred decided to raise turkeys, then pigs. He rented a box car and took the produce into Edmonton to Gainers himself. They were long hard trips, some taking a week or more.

In July of 1923, Fred met a lady, Alice Restall. She came to visit her brother Harold, supposedly for three months as she felt sorry for him. Departure was delayed, finally she found she had no money to return home as she called England. She was a tiny, determined, very resourceful person and made up her mind to make the best of a new life. She learned how to bake, can, cure meat for winter supplies. She was a seamstress so this came in very handy. Soon she was sewing clothes for the men, which helped make life easier for them.



Fred, Alice Vowden & Harry Restall.

In time one bachelor, Fred, seemed more in favor than others. Land was bought south of Donnelly and they were married April 30th, 1927. Once again they set out to make a new home together. They were happy and on July 7, 1928 they had a daughter Charlotte. As most other children of the time, I was born at home, with a mid-wife and doctor. In the spring of 1929 we moved back to Guy and lived with my Uncle Harry.

The depression took a toll on my parents as well as everyone else. Before, they had the elements to cope with. Now, if they could produce

and sell their produce they received little money for it.

The formative years of my life were spent at Guy, and I learned how to live in a multi-cultural atmosphere. It seems, they had great respect for each other's capabilities and were always willing to learn from each other.



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Vowden — early 1930's.

Home brew was made. I remember my Mother making beer and wine, fearing a visit from the police. A trip to Falher was a big event. In winter, stones were heated and wrapped up upon which we placed our feet to help keep warm.

How fortunate we are today to have hospitals, health insurances, good roads, and transportation. Then illness was feared, most especially in winter when people were literally trapped in the snow. Home remedies and the knowledge of them were a necessity for man and animal alike.

Survive we did and in the early 30's my parents moved back to south of Donnelly to be closer to school for me and also to the market outlets.

My parents moved into McLennan in 1948. They always grew a garden until 1972 when Dad died. My Mother, then in very poor health, moved into the Nursing Home where she died in 1976.

I will always have great respect and love for my parents who taught me, with great difficulty I presume, the different worths of honesty, compassion for those less fortunate than ourselves, respect for others' property; also to help the needy. Our home though very humble had love, laughter, music and of course reading. I am also grateful to my uncles, and many of the other pioneers who touched my life at a young age, leaving different impressions which have served me well during the years. To all my sincere respect and thanks.

Frederick James Vowden; b.02-09-1881 m.30-04-1927 d.1972 Alice Restall; b.21-04-1888 d.1976

CHILDREN:

1. Charlotte: b.07-07-1928 m.15-08-1953
William Howe: They have three children:
Harvey, Karen and Michael.

* * *

Fred est né le 2 septembre 1881 à Wiltshire, Angleterre. Il fit son apprentissage pour devenir forgeron. Pendant la première guerre mondiale, il travailla dans une usine de guerre ce qui ne plaisait pas à ce jeune homme qui aimait voyager en bicyclette et en motocyclette et photographier les paysages de son pays.

Son frère, George, revint de la guerre et lui parla du Canada. Ils décidèrent de venir au Canada. Ils sont arrivés à Guy en 1919 et ils ont bâti une maison en bois rond sur la terre de Harold Restall. Ils y ont passé l'hiver ensemble. L'été suivant, Fred et George ont bâti leur "shack" sur le terrain de George. Ils firent de la lecture pour apprendre comment s'y prendre.

Le 30 avril 1927, il épousa Alice Restall, la sœur de Harold qui était venu le visiter. Ils ont acheté du terrain au sud de Donnelly où ils sont demeurés jusqu'en 1948, quand ils sont déménagés à McLennan.

VOWDEN, GEORGE, W.C.

by Charlotte Vowden Howe

George was the fourth of five children born to Charlotte and James Vowden in Wiltshire, England in 1891. He had two older brothers, two sisters, one younger and one older than himself. He was more quiet and seemed to be less adventurous than his two brothers, but through the years I've wondered about that. Upon completion of his school education he went to work for a shipping firm in London, England as a clerk. An opening in an office in British Guyana became available. He seized the opportunity and with time worked his way to "overseer" on the sugar cane plantation. He liked the work, climate, way of life, and the people. He made friends with both whites and natives. He became close friends with one of the natives, telling a story fondly, how the man saved his life by killing a snake. He had the skin preserved but lost it when his house burned down in the 30's.

When World War I broke out, he joined the artillery, sustaining a crushed ankle. While in the trenches he met some Canadian soldiers from the Peace River Country. Upon his return to England he discussed the possibilities of going to this



George Vowden.

wonderful new country with his eldest brother Fred who thought it was a wonderful idea. Plans were made and they met again at Guy in June 1919.

The challenge of the quiet wilderness suited his nature, and he adapted well to new severe elements, except the cold. Cold weather was always a challenge to him.

The two brothers lived together on George's land, even though Fred in time acquired other land. They related well with each other, and shared all chores, though George never did become a noted "chef".

He had a very quiet sense of humour, loved a good argument and was an avid reader.

In 1928, he was overjoyed at the birth of his little niece, Charlotte, whom he always called his little Dove to his dying day. He had a great fear of hurting me, but with my childish persistence he lost this fear and we spent many happy hours together. He in turn taught me not to fear, in his own quiet way.

In the 30's he lost his small house to fire, his greatest losses were his snake skin and one of my little shoes. He had a log house built by Stanley Olshanowski, totally by hand. The logs were squared and in due time it was stuccoed. That was his pride. He loved trees and ordered a few different species and planted a wind break which is still growing. About the same time he saw a caboose, that was a great idea, so Stanley built him one.

He also had a community spirit, and was school secretary.

He took a great interest in young people, helping them any way he could. Friends and family often wondered how this tall, thin, quiet, reserved man ever adapted to the rugged wilderness, I think it was through acceptance of whatever the situation was. He loved his farm, horses, pet squirrel and birds. He was no gardener yet he knew the names of plants and flowers by both common and botanical names. Springtime was his favorite time of year, when he could once again get on the land.

In November 1954 he suffered a heart attack, and recuperated for a period of time at Fred and Cisses' home, but he had to go back to his farm and horses. His wish was to die at home and of course the impossible, to be buried in his favorite knoll. On May 1, 1955, he went to bed and died in his sleep. He was laid to rest in the Veterans' plot in the McLennan Cemetery. At last he found his true peace which came from nature and the land as he had always said.

* * *

George est né en 1891, le quatrième de cinq enfants de Charlotte et James Vowden de Wiltshire, Angleterre. Il travailla comme expéditionnaire dans une maison de commerce. Pendant la première guerre mondiale, il joignit l'artillerie.

Dans les tranchées de France, il rencontra des soldats de la région de Rivière-la-Paix et après la guerre il discuta avec son frère, Fred, l'idée d'aller dans un nouveau pays. Ils se rencontrèrent à Guy au mois de juin 1919.

Après la perte de son "shack" par le feu il se fit bâtir une maison en bois rond par Stanley Olshanowski, maison construite totalement à la main. En novembre 1954, il eut une crise cardiaque et après une convalescence chez son frère, Fred, il retourna sur son terrain qu'il aimait tant. Il est mort le premier mai 1955 et fut inhumé au cimetière des vétérans à McLennan.

WAWRZONEK, HENRY & HENLEY, DAWN

by Henry Wawrzonek

I, Henry, fourth child of Walter and Marja Wawrzonek was born at home on the family farm, March 5, 1939.

When I first attended the Whiteland School, Mrs. Cecile Aubin was the teacher. The following year Miss Rita Turcotte (Mrs. Raymond Benoit) became my teacher until grade ten. In summer we often had to walk two and a half miles to school. We were more fortunate in winter as we had the use of a horse and cutter but had to look

after the horse---feed and water it once at school. In spite of the hardships those were happy times.

After completing grade ten I attended Fairview Agricultural College for two years. While still in College I took my first homestead in the fall of 1957. After graduating in the spring of 1958 I returned to the farm to help my dad in the clearing of land and doing general farm work.

That same year I became actively involved in the work of the Guy Sports Committee and accepted the position of secretary-treasurer which I maintained for four years. I remember doing the banking for the organization at the Guy Credit Union. Mrs. E. Noel was the secretary-treasurer of that institution at that time. She could not speak English and I hardly spoke any French, so it was rather interesting to watch our performance to make each other understood--lots of signs and scribbling of numbers I dare say. Part of the Sports Committee's community involvement at the time was the levelling, flooding and snow removal of an outdoor skating rink for which I was responsible one whole year. True, I had help from volunteers and my good buddy Kizic Duglosz.

One day I met a pretty young lass who was working as receptionist and nurse at Dr. Campbell Fowler's office in Falher. Wedding bells rang July 3, 1965 when I married (Dawn) Aurore, eldest daughter of George and Lena Henley of



R.1 Lory Ann, Dallas Henly, Aurore. R.2 Gary, Henry Wawrzonek.

Girouxville. After our marriage we lived for one year in Falher. In the fall of 1966 Dawn accepted a position at the Aberhart Sanatorium in Edmonton so it was another move for us to Edmonton.

Wanting to farm I bought a half section of land from my dad in 1966. This land was dad's original homestead. A year later we built a modern home on this land, SW-29-75-20 and have lived there ever since.

Then the children were born. First Gary in 1968, Lory-Ann in 1971 and we accepted custody of a boy, Dallas Henley, son of Dawn's brother Armand and his wife Dorothy.

The business of raising a family and of operating a farm kept us well occupied. It is only when the parish of Guy decided to celebrate its 50th Anniversary in July 1981 that I became involved again in community work. I accepted being president of the Committee of the 50th Anniversary.

Parishioners rallied and our two-day event turned out to be fun and a huge success. Former residents came back in large number to help us celebrate.

In 1982 I accepted being president of the Guy Sports Committee whose main goal at the time was to obtain, from the High Prairie School Division #48, the gymnasium and classrooms of our now closed Langlois school.

We wanted a community centre. The school had been closed since September 1979. After several months of waiting the large building was bought for one dollar. With the help of volunteers and government grants the renovations began. Thanks to the support of dedicated people we have nearly completed our goal of a modern community centre. I wish to extend a sincere thank-you for the know-how and time spent by many in accomplishing this project.

Dawn and I now find time to do volunteer work for the Family Service Bureau. We find this very rewarding.

With the help of my son, Gary, who graduated from G.P. Vanier School last year, we now farm nine quarters of land. My parents' hardships and determination have made this possible. Lory-Ann and Dallas are attending school in Donnelly.

Henry Wawrzonek; b.05-03-1939 m.03-07-1965

Aurore Henley; b.08-02-1942.

CHILDREN:

1. Gary; b.02-05-1968 d.1-11-87
2. Lory-Ann; b. 13-03-1971
3. Dallas Henley; b.16-06-1976

* * *

Henry, le quatrième de la famille de Walter et Maya Wawrzonek est né à la maison le 5 mars 1939. J'ai complété dix années de classe à l'école Whiteland, puis ensuite j'ai fait deux ans au collège d'agriculture à Fairview. En 1957 après avoir complété mes études, j'ai aidé mon père à cultiver.

C'est à Falher, au bureau du Dr. Fowler que j'ai rencontré une jeune secrétaire, qui sut me plaire. Le 3 juillet 1965, Aurore Henley, devint mon épouse et nous avons demeurés à Falher pour un an. En 1966, Aurore prit un emploi à l'Aberhart Sanatorium, à Edmonton, où nous avons résidé pour un an.

Mon désir de devenir fermier grandissait alors, j'ai acheté la demie de mon père, et nous sommes revenues à Guy, pour rester, sur le SO-29-75-20. J'ai pris une grande part dans les activités des sports, et je suis fier de ce qui est accompli à Guy.

Nous nous sommes construit une bonne maison moderne où nous demeurons encore avec nos trois enfants. Nous cultivons présentement neuf carreaux de terre.

WAWRZONEK, JOHN EDWARD & BEAUDOIN, CLAUDETTE

by John Wawrzonek

I was born December 5, 1931 on my parents' homestead (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -21-75-20) and was brought into this world by the then midwife Mrs. Andrew Luberdia.

As a young boy I lived on my parents' farm which was approximately two miles from Whiteland School where we eventually went to get our schooling. During the summer we would walk to and from school but during the hard winters we would go by horse and cutter and we would keep our horses in a barn which was only about 100 feet from the school. We had a lot of great times at Whiteland. For years we had a soft ball and a hockey team which competed against other country schools such as Benoit, Edgemoor and Langlois. This was the extent of our socializing with our more distant neighbors at the time. Our hockey practices and skating was on Mr. Johnny Charest's pond. We'd all pitch in and shovel the snow off the pond before most of our practices.

After completing Grade 10 in Whiteland I went to C. W. Pratt school in High Prairie for one year and then I quit altogether to go farming with my Dad.

In 1951, I applied for my own homestead lease W $\frac{1}{2}$ -24-75-20 which I'm still farming today. Every winter for 9 years I worked out on Cats and on oil rigs to subsidize the farm. At the time



John, Claudette & bébé Leo in front of their first home.

our wages were \$1.85 per hour and that was considered to be very good wages.

I met my future wife in 1960 at the Guy skating rink. Shortly afterwards driving a truck on my way to work in the Simonette oil fields, Claudette, who was working for Benoit and Cécile Aubin at the time, waved to me as I went by. I stopped to chat and visit her. Claudette says

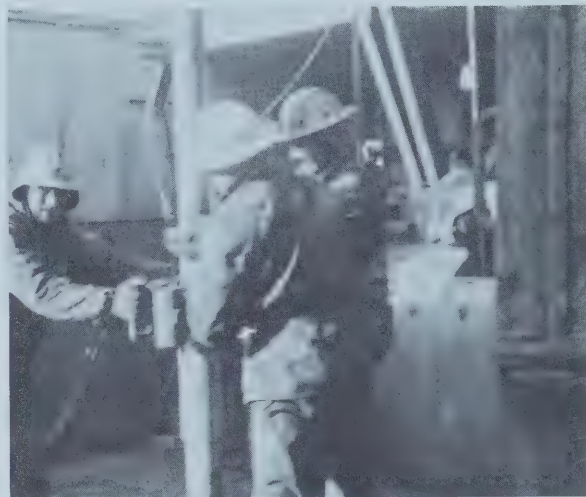


R.1 Krystine & Michael. R.2 Trevor & Leo. R.3 John, Claudette & Valerie.

I tooted the horn first and she responded... Who cares who did what first! I know I'm glad she waved.

On July 12, 1961 I married Claudette, daughter of Léopold and Alice Garand. That same summer Mr. Yvon Bouchard's store in Guy burnt to the ground but the house was spared. Mr. Bouchard did not want to rebuild a store so I bought the lots and the house. I built a new store which we called John's Grocery and Hardware. We opened before Christmas that same year and operated that store for seven years.

In the summer of 1967 we built a house on the farm (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -25-75-20) with the hope of finding a buyer for the store so that I could become a full-time farmer rather than doing both, managing a store and farming. In February 1968 we traded the store for a half section of land plus... and happily started farming on a full-time basis again; I am enjoying it very much. I guess once a farmer, always a farmer.



John Wawrzonek (left of picture) working for oil rigs.

John Wawrzonek: n.02-09-1931 m.12-07-1961

Claudette Beaudoin: n.06-01-1942

CHILDREN:

1. Léo: n.27-08-1962
2. Michael: n.11-04-1964
3. Valerie: n.03-10-1965
4. Trevor: n.06-09-1978
5. Krystine: n.10-03-1980

* * *

Jeune homme, je restais sur la ferme de mes parents à deux milles de l'école Whiteland que j'ai fréquenté.

Après avoir complété la dixième année à Whiteland j'allai à l'école C. W. Pratt à High Prairie pour un an et ensuite quittai complètement pour cultiver avec mon père.

En 1951, j'appliquai pour mon propre "homestead" que je cultive encore aujourd'hui. Chaque hiver pendant neuf ans je travaillais sur des tracteurs-chenilles et sur des tours de forage pour faire vivre la ferme. Les gages étaient de \$1.85 de l'heure.

Je rencontrai ma future femme à la patinoire de Guy. Le 12 juillet 1961 j'épousai Claudette. Ce même été le magasin de M. Yvon Bouchard fut brûlé mais la maison fut sauvée. Comme il ne voulait pas rebâtir, j'achetai les lots et la maison. Je bâtis un nouveau magasin qu'on nomma John's Grocery and Hardware.

En février 1968, nous échangeons le magasin pour une demi section de terre et commençons à cultiver à plein temps.

WAWRZONEK, JOSEPH F.

by Joseph

I was born at Webster, Alberta, 28th of February, 1930, and grew up during the Depression on a farm, south and east of Guy. Although I did not experience much hardships things were not always easy.

I started my education in a one room country school, called Whiteland, which was situated two and a half miles from home. All grades from one to eight were taught and there were about thirty students attending. For one year I took correspondence under the direction of a supervisor due to a shortage of teachers during the war years.

There were no busses in those days. We walked or used a cutter or a horse drawn caboose which kept us warm. After eight years of schooling at a country school I attended High Prairie High School. It was a good experience in many ways and a change in life-style, from an isolated farm home to town living.

After leaving High School I decided to go farming. On September 20th, 1951 I filed on homestead SE ¼ 21-75-20-W5, which I cleared and broke with my father's John Deere Model D tractor. In 1963 I sold my homestead and acquired a larger farm which I still own and operate. There are drawbacks in farming but there are also advantages: working at one's own time, own pace and no one to bug a person.

I have some memories of hardships, water shortage was one of those. Ah! that precious water! We would melt snow or pack blocks of ice in the ice house, or trap roof water in barrels for our own use. For the livestock we would haul

Joseph F. Wawrzonek.



water in barrels from the muskeg. In the early forties a dug-out was dug thanks to a government incentive grant.

Because of the muskeg breeding grounds there were mosquitoes, swarms of them. There were no chemical repellents in those days. To solve that problem we would make a smudge for the animals and for ourselves but they could still find us. I remember the neighbor carrying a smudge pail on the two furrow plough, called a gang plow. What a sight!

I also recall the three or four gallon cans of cream with the owner's name painted in bold letters with a paint brush and bright paint. Our parents would seize every available way to bring in a little extra cash. So the cows were milked, the milk and cream separated with a manual cream separator, bringing the cans of cream to the postman's place so that for a small fee he could take the cream to Falher on his mail run. These were in turn loaded on the freight train and shipped to Westlock. Then we patiently waited for the cream cheque.

I do remember the original homesteaders; they had great faith, hope and optimism during the twenties and dirty thirties. There were many hardships and inconveniences but with determination they made our district a great place to live and work in.

We, the descendants should be proud of our first settlers and realize that we are reaping the benefits of their hard work and determination.

* * *

Je suis né à Webster, Alberta le 28 février 1930 et j'ai grandi sur une ferme au sud-est de Guy durant la crise économique. Bien que je n'aie pas connu la grosse misère, la vie n'était pas toujours facile.

J'ai commencé mes études à Whiteland où



(Drawing) Cream Container which was shipped to Edmonton.

l'école n'avait qu'une salle de classe. Elle était située à deux milles et demi, environ, de chez-moi. Il y avait une trentaine d'élèves de la première à la huitième année. Après huit ans à l'école de campagne, je poursuivi mes études à High Prairie. C'était différent de la vie isolée à la ferme.

Le 20 septembre 1951, je pris un "homestead" que je défrichai à l'aide du tracteur de mon père.

En 1963, je vendis mon "homestead" pour me procurer une plus grande ferme où je demeure jusqu'à ce jour.

Je me souviens des bidons de crème contenant trois ou quatre gallons; le nom du propriétaire était peint en grosses lettres sur le bidon avec une peinture de couleur vive.

Mes parents prenaient tous les moyens possibles pour rapporter un peu d'argent. On séparait la crème du lait et les bidons remplis de crème étaient livrés chez le postier, M.A. Lambert, qui à son tour les apportaient à Falher moyennant un petit montant d'argent. Par la suite les bidons étaient placés sur le train et expédiés à Westlock. Et puis, on attendait patiemment pour le chèque de la crème.

Je me souviens bien que les pionniers des années trente et quarante avaient beaucoup d'espoir dans l'avenir.

Malgré les difficultés, ils réussirent à développer la région.

WAWRZONEK, WLADYSLAW (WALTER) & KREZEL, MARJA

written by family

Wladyslaw (Walter) Wawrzonek was born in Przeryty Bor, Krakow, Poland, on September 26,

1904. Marja Krezel was born in Dabie, Krakow, Poland, on October 29, 1910.

During the late 1920's the "lure" for cheap land was widely known in Europe. It was an incentive for immigrants to settle in the vast prairies in Canada. Marja Krezel (19 years old) and Wladyslaw Wawrzonek (25 years old) made a decision to marry and leave their homeland and numerous relatives. Married on May 29, 1929, they soon left for Canada, the Promised Land. With minimal belongings they bid a courageous farewell to a large, warm, loving family. They embarked an ocean liner en route to Halifax which was a nine day voyage. In Halifax they boarded a CN train heading toward western Canada (Alberta). They arrived in Tangent 28 days later, and lived in a home owned by A. Purcka. Dad took a homestead near Tangent and built a shack that summer.



Mr. & Mrs. Walter Wawrzonek.

In the fall of 1929 they moved to Webster, a Polish community, however, there was no work there. They moved to Falher and on May 26, 1930, filed a homestead (SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -21-75- 20-W5) in Forest View. Staying on in Falher during the winter of 1930 - 31, Dad along with three other men took a contract to clear 160 acres of land by hand for O. Lambert, north of Falher. Mom did the cooking for the crew. They lived in two granaries joined together, banked with snow to keep some heat in.

In the spring of 1931 they moved to their homestead in Forest View with their little son, Joseph.

They encountered many hardships: no roads, swamps, mud, mosquitoes and bush. However, the worst were loneliness, solitude, and the language barrier. They drew support from other

Polish immigrants who chose to come to Canada. With no extended family, close friends were uncles and aunts to us. Mom and Dad never complained about food as they had a cow, pigs, chickens and a vegetable garden.

The homestead was lonely and depressing for Mom as she was left alone to take care of the family and farm. Dad went out clearing land in winter and stooking and threshing in the fall. The nearest neighbor was one mile away.

The forties were years of ration for coffee, sugar, meat and gasoline. During the war years, sugar was always a shortage, for canning fruits in the fall. Saskatoons, wild strawberries, blueberries and cranberries were among the common fruits gathered. On a Sunday afternoon, after attending Mass in Guy, a couple of families would meet on the hills of Smoky River to pick saskatoons and chokecherries. It was not uncommon to return with 3-4 milk pails full. A swim in the river, laughter and mosquito bites were part of the scenario. Wine was often made from the wild berries; and Dad could make moonshine that cured anything that ailed you.

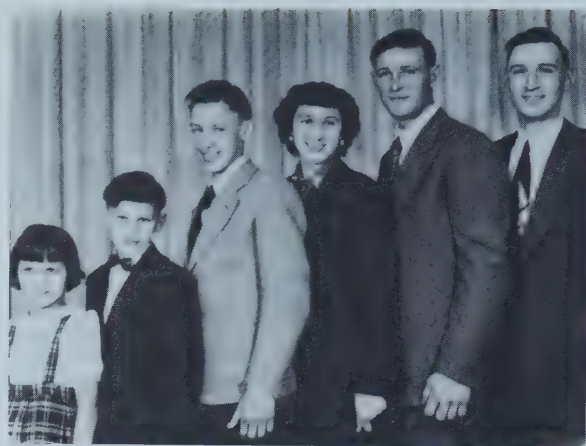
During the winter months, a load of grain was delivered to the Donnelly elevators via horse power. A winter supply of groceries was then purchased at G. Dandurand or J.B. Beland. The provisions were 100 lb sack of flour, 20 lb rolled oats, 10 lb sugar, large bag of beans, salt, yeast and a bag of candy which was hidden from us kids to last longer. The flour and sugar bags were washed, bleached and made into dish towels and aprons.

It was the T. Eaton catalogue for yard goods, felt boots, stocking and fleecy underwear. An aura of surprise awaited our household as Dad went to pick up the C.O.D. parcel.

Killing a pig was a big occasion. Usually two neighboring families got together and shared the work and the supplies. Every part of the pig was utilized. It was exciting. There was sausage to make, then smoke, bacon to cure, large pieces of meat were kept frozen and cut up as needed.

One occurrence that still lingers in our minds today is the daily morning prayers. Mother would return from milking cows, get her brood of children up, wash our faces, then kneel down before the crucifix hanging above the doorway of the kitchen and living room. Together we would make the sign of the cross and in unison say the "Our Father." We owe our faith to this daily practice. Only after prayers did we have breakfast of porridge, milk and a slice of bread and butter.

Formal education was received in Whiteland School, which was two miles from home. We



Helen, Leo, Henry, Irene, John & Jos Wawrzonek.

walked carrying our lunch in Swifts and Burns lard cans. We met with other neighboring kids along the way. The boys provided entertainment through fights or grabbing garter snakes out of ditches and spinning them in the air (some girls tried too). During the cold harsh winter, we travelled by one horse cutter which Dad made. On our way we picked up two neighboring boys. To keep warm we covered up with a blanket or ran behind the cutter (often it was 40 below zero). As the children filed into the one room school heated by a barrel stove, the horse was covered and sheltered in a school barn 100 yards away.

In the fifties more land was cleared and the harvest profitable. Horses were replaced by tractors. The threshing machine crew moved from farm to farm until the harvest was completed. Better roads were built, the coal oil lamp was replaced by the gas lamp which hung from the ceiling. The gas lamp was soon replaced by electric power. Life was indeed easier.

The sixties brought more modern conveniences such as the telephone and television. Electrical appliances were common. Indoor plumbing was a welcomed improvement to the little brown outhouse. Dad gradually became a cattle man and did dealings locally. He passed away March 14, 1970.

Mother continued living with her son Joseph, and often enjoyed walking four to nine miles to visit her son and families.

In 1980, she visited her relatives in Poland. For the first time she saw her only sister, who was born after she left for Canada. Her six brothers, still living, remembered vividly the parcels of food and clothing she sent especially after the war in 1945-46.

In 1985 Mother's health was poor, which

made it necessary to move her to the Venta Nursing Home in Edmonton where she still resides.

Wladyslaw Wawrzonek; b.09-26-1904
m.05-29-1929 d.03-14-1970

Krezel, Marja; b.10-29-1910

CHILDREN:

1. Joseph; b.02-28-1930 – single
2. John; b.09-02-1931 m.07-12-1961
Claudette Beaudoin. They have five children.
3. Iene; b.12-10-1935 m.07-09-1966
Don S. Brian. They have two children
4. Henry; b.03-05-1939 m.07-03-1965
Aurore Henley. They have three children.
4. Leo; b.05-25-1941 d.11-27-1955
5. Helen; b.11-10-1944 m.
Ed Lee. They have one child.

* * *

Nouveaux mariés, Marja Krezel et Wladyslaw Wawrzonek quittèrent la Pologne pour se rendre à Tangent, AB, un voyage qui dura 37 jours.

En 1930, ils prirent leur premier "homestead" à Forest View. Ils durent surmonter bien des difficultés: le travail ardu, l'absence de commodités et l'isolation. Maman devait s'occuper de la famille et de la ferme pendant que Papa allait travailler en dehors pour aider aux récoltes l'automne ou ouvrir du terrain l'hiver.

Nous faisons beaucoup de conserves de fruits sauvages que nous allions cueillir ensemble.

La prière en famille était très importante chez nous. Maman nous rassemblait le matin pour dire le Notre Père ensemble avant le déjeuner.

Nous, les enfants, sommes allés à l'école Whiteland à deux milles de chez nous. Même les grands froids ne nous arrêtaient pas.

L'automne, deux familles se réunissaient pour faire boucherie d'un porc et préparer la viande pour la conserver. Le grain était charroyé à Donnelly, après quoi nous achetions les provisions pour l'hiver. On faisait aussi la commande chez "Eaton".

Avec la venue de l'électricité, dans les années cinquante, la vie s'améliora beaucoup. Maman eu le plaisir de retourner en Pologne en 1980. Elle demeure présentement à Edmonton.

WINNICKY, JOHN SR. & JAWORSKI, JULIA

by Roger Winnicky

John Winnicky Sr. and his wife Julia (Jaworski) were both born and married in the eastern Ukraine. They immigrated to Canada in 1904 by

boat and homesteaded at Birmingham, Sask. They raised four sons: John, Joseph, Peter and Michael, and two daughters, Mary (P. Shannon) and Olga (N. Todor). In 1930 he sold out and homesteaded in the Guy (Ballater) area, SW 17-75-21-W5, along with his family members following suit. This proved to be their final move with grandpa John passing away on July 7, 1944 and grandma Julia passing away on August 24, 1958. They are both buried in the family churchyard cemetery located in the St. Mary's Greek Catholic Cemetery on the NW-16-75-21-W5.

John Winnicky Sr. ainsi que sa femme Julia Jaworski naquirent et épousèrent en Ukraine. En 1904 ils vinrent au Canada et s'installèrent à Birmingham, Saskatchewan. Ils eurent quatre fils et deux filles.

En 1930 la famille démenagea sur un "homestead" dans la région de Guy et s'adonnèrent au défrichement et à la culture. Ce fut leur dernier déplacement car grandpère mourut le 7 juillet 1944 et grand-mère le 24 août 1958. Ils reposent tous les deux dans le cimetière familial près de la petite église St. Mary's Greek Catholic située sur NW 16-75-21-W5.

WINNICKY, JOHN J. & RICKARD, MARY

by Roger Winnicky

Dad was born in Fenwood, Saskatchewan, on June 24, 1904. Shortly after his mother and father Julia and John arrived from the Ukraine and homesteaded in the Birmingham, Saskatchewan area. He was raised in the same area and married Mary E. Rickard on November 21, 1925 at Melville, Saskatchewan. Dad had a quarter section of land which he cleared and broke with horses. In addition to roots, an abundance of rocks had to be picked as well. In October 1929, Dad travelled west to look for land and took a homestead on the SW-21-75-21-W5. (Presently owned by H. Wawrzonek). They had a sale on March 12, 1930 in Birmingham, Saskatchewan. After selling his land and paying his debts he netted \$600.00. On April 5, of the same year, Dad and Mother loaded a railroad boxcar with 4 horses, 4 cows, 30 chickens, machinery, furniture, and a 1928 Model T car. The train fare to Falher was \$225.00. Dad bought a breaking plough which was pulled by 4 horses and guided by the operator, who walked behind Mother and Dad broke 20 acres the first year and averaged 10 acres per year thereafter. The crop was cut by binder and stacked and was later threshed.

Grain was later hauled to Donnelly with horses and averaged about 60 bushels per load. While hauling their first load they got stuck in the



John & Mary in 1940.

mud. Dad rented a horse to assist those he already had hitched to the wagon. After selling the load for 19 cents per bushel, he bought 10 lbs. of sugar, (to pay for the rented horse) a washboard, 20 lbs. of oatmeal, sugar, and a bundle of leaf tobacco. these purchases used up all the funds he had received from his load of wheat.

After breaking a total of 60 acres, Dad sold his homestead for \$700.00 and moved to Ed Rickard's (his father-in-law) homestead, on the SW-9-75-21-W5, which we farm today. Mother took a homestead on the NW10-75-21-W5, which is the present homesite of Winnicky Farms Ltd. After moving to the River Calley, they built a log house, barn with a sod roof and a blacksmith shop. Dad bought a 12-24 Hart Par tractor from E. Hamel and a year later bought a Wood Bros. threshing machine from Lionel Chalifoux. He then started custom threshing for many farmers in the area. Custom rates at that time were wheat 3 cents per bushel and oats 1 1/2 cents per bushel.

In approximately 1938, the Little Smoky River flooded them out and they moved to Mother's homestead where they still reside today. During those early years there was such an abundance of wild game that the horses pulling the wagons, would occasionally halt because of



Roger & Mary Winnicky & Nick Andriowski, 1941.

moose or deer blocking the road. Farm pets included a bear, a deer and a cow moose. Dad built his own sawmill and sawed all the lumber and squared timber for his own use, including the lumber for the church located on NW-16-75-21-W5, which was built by the Winnicky families and friends. He always leaned towards the mechanical and creative side of life. This was evident in his blacksmith shop, where he made everything from horseshoes, plough



John Winnicky's camp at River in 1955.

shares, babbitt bearings, and did forge welding with the list being limited only to his imagination. I can recall the proud day when he installed a 32 volt power plant, which replaced the kerosene lamps.

It is also known that Dad could manufacture some of the finest 'spirits' in the area. Rumour also has it that he went into partnership with his friend Fred Caron, along with Lionel Chalifoux as backup, if bail was required!

At all times Mother was by his side, whether driving a team of horses, pitching bundles into the threshing machine or herding cattle on horseback. She preferred the outdoors in the

early years and left much of the cooking to Granny Rickard. Our home was always open to everyone including the missionary priests, who travelled through the area. Volunteer work was the order of the day, including assistance in building the Roman Catholic Church in Guy, and being a chauffeur for Father Mallet.



Smoky River Flood in 1938.

I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to assist in assembling this short autobiography, since Mother and Dad have had a colorful past and both Bob and I feel proud of their accomplishments. Also it has made me realize how close our family was and is today. Mother and Dad reside on mother's original homestead with son Bob and his family residing across the road on the NE-9-75-21-W5. On November 21, 1986, we celebrated their 61st anniversary.

* * *

Originaire de la Saskatchewan, John J. Winnicky et son épouse Mary Rickard arrivent en avril 1930 et ensemble ils défrichent 20 acres. A chaque année, ils s'efforcent d'en défricher un autre dix. Après avoir cultivé 60 acres, ils vendent leur terrain et s'installent sur la ferme de Ed Rickard (son beau-père).

Mary E. prend aussi du terrain et tout ceci est aujourd'hui Winnicky Farms Ltd.

Vers 1938, une inondation les fait déménager sur un terrain différent.

John J. bâtit un moulin à scie pour ses besoins et aussi pour le bois requis pour bâtir une église sur le NW 16-75-21-W5.

Il aide aussi à la construction de l'église de Guy, et conduit le Père Mallet.

Le 21 novembre 1986, ils célèbrent leur 61ième anniversaire de mariage.

WINNICKY, PETER & TANASICHUK, MARY

by Mary Tanasichuk Winnicky

Peter, son of John Winnicky and Julia Yavorski, came to Falher from Saskatchewan in 1930. Since his father, John, had horses and cows that he was taking along, Peter rode in the boxcar to look after the livestock. They took land 18 miles south of Falher where Peter did a lot of grubbing for himself, for his father and for neighbors.



R.1 Peter, Elsie. R.2 Mary.

In 1934, in the Falher church, he married Mary Tanasichuk, daughter of William and Nellie who had emigrated from Borshchew, West Ukraine. Mary was born in Grande View, Manitoba, and moved to Nampa in 1929. They lived with Peter's parents as their house wasn't finished.

Peter cleared more land and Mary made brush piles that they would burn at night. In winter, Peter used to trap and do ice fishing. He got a job clearing land for a neighbor in return for a pair of horses. During dry summers, Peter hauled water in a tank from the river with the horses and wagon. While Peter was on the trapline in winter, Mary melted snow for the livestock.

Ernest, Jack and Andy walked two and a half miles to Edgehill School, there and back, summer and winter.

We used to have mass once a month and that was always held at our house as the church they had started to build wasn't finished at the time.

Later, Peter bought a tractor and a saw to cut firewood for others for wages.

As the boys went on their own, Peter sold his



R.1 Ernest, Jack. R.2 Peter, Steve, Andy.

land to Robert Winnicky in 1969. We moved to New Fish Creek to our son Ernie's land NW-17-73-21-W5 and took life a little easier. Peter became ill and died February 26, 1984.

I still live on the same place where I lease 2.6 acres from the government. Andy stays with me when he isn't working. I still do sewing, knitting, and reading and I go fishing with Andy.

Peter Winnicky: n.08-07-1910 m.1934 d.26-02-1984

Mary Tanasichuk: n.22-10-1917

CHILDREN:

1. Ernest: n.11-03-1935 m.10-07-1975

Cherryl Hollingsworth. They have two daughters and live in Mayerthorpe.

2. Elizabeth: n.02-01-1937 d.11-02-1937

3. Billy: n.17-01-1939 d.09-02-1939

4. Pauline: n.08-07-1940 d.23-01-1943

5. Jack: n.21-10-1942 m.20-09-1969

Carmen St.Pierre. They have three boys and live in Grande Prairie.

6. Andrew: n.05-06-1944 m.03-04-1971

Sandra Merryfield. They have one daughter and two sons who live with their mother in Calgary.

7. Elsie Anna: n.27-07-1948 m.05-10-1969 (divorced)

Jerry Bablitz. Elsie lives in Grande Prairie with her son and daughter.

8. Steve: n.14-09-1952 m.13-06-1980

Lorna Ardill. They have two sons and live on her father's ranch in Fort St. John B.C.

* * *

Peter vint à Falher de la Saskatchewan en 1930. Puisque son père, John avait des chevaux

et des vaches qu'il amenait avec lui, Peter voya-gea dans le wagon avec les animaux. Ils prirent du terrain à 18 milles au sud de Falher où il défricha pour lui-même, son père et les voisins. En 1934, dans l'église de Falher il épousa Mary Tanasichuk dont les parents avaient émigré de Borsbchew, Ukraine de l'Ouest. Mary était née à Grande View, Manitoba et vint à Nampa en 1929.

Peter ouvrit plus de terrain et Mary pilait le bois qu'ils brûlaient le soir. En hiver, Peter trappait et pêchait sur la glace. Il ouvrit du terrain pour un voisin; en retour il eu un attelage de chevaux. Pendant un été sec il charroya de l'eau de la rivière avec les chevaux et wagon. Pendant que Peter était à trapper, Mary faisait fondre de la neige pour les animaux.

Ernest, Jack et Andy marchaient deux milles et demi à l'école d'Edgehill, hiver comme été.

Nous avions la messe une fois par mois et c'était toujours chez nous car l'église n'était pas complétée.

Plus tard, Peter acheta un tracteur et une scie pour scier du bois de chauffage pour les auters.

Quand nos garçons sont partis de la maison, Peter a vendu sa terre à Robert Winnicky en 1969. Nous sommes déménagés à New Fish Creek chez notre garçon Ernie pour prendre la vie plus aisé. Peter est devenu malade et est décédé le 26 février 1984.

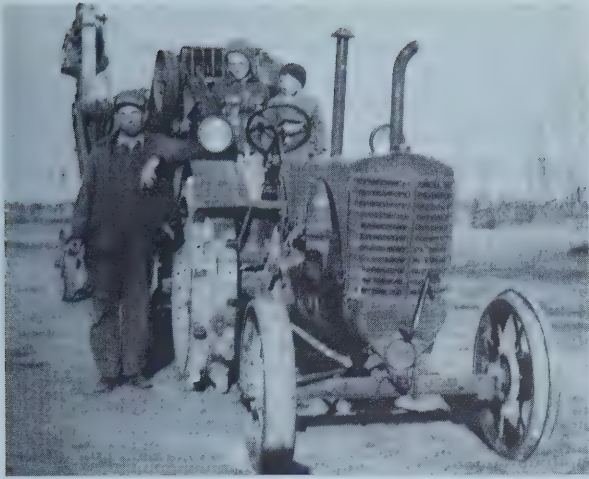
WINNICKY, ROBERT & BEUSEKOM, ANNE

by Roger Winnicky

Bob was born on September 26, 1943. During his early years (13 years) he got involved in homesteading and renting land with his brother Roger. After leaving high school, he attended



Robert & Ann and Maria.



John Winnicky with sons Roger & Bob, 1947.

Agriculture College for 2 years. The homestead were eventually sold and land was assembled in the area of Dad's farm (J.J. Winnicky), and Winnicky Farms Ltd. was formed.

In 1981, Bob married Anne Beusekom. Anne was born in the Netherlands and immigrated to Canada with her parents, 2 brothers and 2 sisters. They settled in the Raymond, Alberta, area and later moved to Fort McLeod. Bob and Anne with daughter Maria live on the farm at Guy.

* * *

Robert étudie deux ans au Collège agricole, ensuite il revient cultiver avec ses parents et son frère Roger (Winnicky Farms Ltd).

Robert, son épouse Anne et leur fille Maria, demeurent sur une ferme à Guy.

WINNICKY, ROGER & VANDERAEGEN, DENISE

by Roger Winnicky

I was born August 20, 1938. After completing grade nine at Edgehill School, I completed my high school education in Girouxville. It was during these years that I started renting land and took a homestead when I was 18 years old. Upon completing high school, I considered Education as a career. To gain some insight, I supervised grades 1 to 9 at the Edgehill School for one year. This was not to be and I attended Agricultural College for two years and continued to expand the farm with my brother Bob.

For breaking our homestead, I remember buying our first tractor, a 22-36 McCormick. The first year of homesteading we used Dad's 2 ton Mercury truck with a tarp across the box for our accomodation. Bob was cook! The following



Roger Winnicky with his pet cat.

year, Dad helped us build a small shack which we eventually moved to our campsite on the Little Smoky, after selling the homestead.

It was during this time I started apprenticing in the Griep & Humphries Funeral Home in Peace River. Upon completion, a colleague and I founded the Chapel of Memories in High Prairie August of 1961. Through the ambulance business, which we operated, I met Denise, a registered Nurse, who became my wife on February 14, 1966. Dee's parents, Max and Evelyn Vanderaegen operated a Hardware Store in High Prairie, with Max filling the town's mayoralty chair for many years. Dee, who later received her Funeral Director's Diploma has 1 sister and 3 brothers.



R.1 Jodi, Kim, Kari. R.2 Denise, Roger Winnicky.



Family's Pet Bear.

We found the business world challenging and continued to expand the funeral business and diversified into the investments and development field, while continuing to participate in Winnicky Farms Ltd. We now live in Grande Prairie and are the proud parents of three daughters. Kim is attending the University of Alberta in Edmonton and Jodi is completing her grade 12. Their goal is to obtain their Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Our bilingual daughter Kari is completing grade 8.

* * *

Roger complète sa neuvième année à l'école Edgehill et son secondaire à Girouxville. A 18 ans, il prend son premier terrain. Pour savoir si l'enseignement serait sa carrière, il surveille les classes de l'école Edgehill pour une année. Ensuite il étudie au Collège agricole pour deux ans.

Après quelques temps à défricher du terrain avec son frère Bob, il devint apprenti pour Griep & Humphries Funeral Home à Peace River. En août 1961, Roger et un collègue établissent Chapel of Memories à High Prairie.

Roger et son épouse Denise Vanderaegen, continuent d'élargir leur entreprise tout en continuant de faire partie de Winnicky Farms Ltd. Ils demeurent à Grande Prairie.

WOJSECKI, STANLEY

memories of Rose Sniezek

Stanley came to Canada from Poland at the same time as Michael Sniezek. They became neighbors. After clearing 75 acres he sold his land to Michael for \$300 and went to live in Toronto where he married. He has two children, a boy

and a girl. He has returned once, accompanied by his daughter, to visit friends in the area.

* * *

Stanley est venu de la Pologne au Canada, en même temps que Michael Sniezek. Ils devinrent voisins. Après avoir défriché soixante-quinze acres, il vendit sa terre à Michael Sniezek pour \$300.00 et s'en alla vivre à Toronto, où il se maria. Il a deux enfants, un garçon et une fille.

ZESKO, ANDREW & WASYLIUK, EFROSINJA

by Jennie Zesko Novak

Andrew Zesko was born on August 16, 1897 in the vicinity of Brest in White Russia within the boundaries of the U.S.S.R. During the first world war his family, along with other residents, were moved into eastern Russia, Kazansk, for survival. It was there that he met Efrosinja Wasyliuk (born June 15, 1896) and in 1917 they were married. After the war they returned to Brest (which had become part of Poland) and continued their simple peasant life on a small farm.



R.1 Pete. R.2 Andrew, Victor, Vicky, Mrs. Zesko. R.3 John and Jenny.

News of better living standards and free land in Canada were voiced by the travel agents and those who had emigrated earlier. Mr. and Mrs. Zesko were convinced, and in the spring of 1930, they, along with their three children, Anna, John and Jennie, ventured to Canada on the passenger ship "Megantic". They landed in Quebec and immediately journeyed to Swan River, Manitoba, where they were met by Mrs. Zesko's sister and brother-in-law, Jacob and Krystyna Shybunga and their children, Sergey, and Lou. Harasim Zesko (cousin to Andrew Zesko), his family and brother David also arrived in 1930.

The families lived in Swan River for six months. During this time, information was received from the Abramovich and Romaniuk families, who had settled in the Guy area several months earlier, that land was available there. The three families then travelled to Donnelly by train in December. They were met at Donnelly by Daniel Abramovich and Mike Segula and lived at John Romaniuk's for three weeks until they purchased a homestead and built a house in the Benoit School area, approximately ten miles south and two miles east of Donnelly. They lived there for three years clearing and breaking about 15-20 acres of land. After this time, they realized the land was too rocky to farm so they moved to Guy.



Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Zesko.

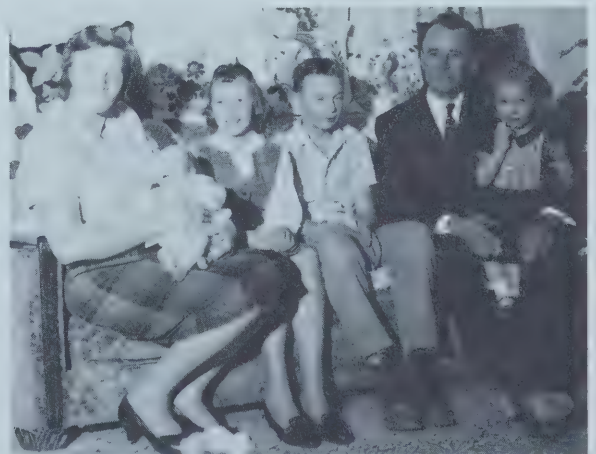
At Guy they built small temporary living quarters comprised of two granaries until a house was built a year later. For this they used a hand saw brought with them from the old country to saw logs into boards. This house was demolished in 1986.

The abundance of rabbits provided meat for their diets. Since, in Poland, only the elite families had access to rabbit meat, they considered themselves very fortunate. Drinking water was provided by melting snow. In the summertime, shallow wells were dug in the muskeg area. Later, when the Social Credit Party came to power, the government subsidized the digging of dug-outs.

Mr. Zesko reported that survival was difficult for the first few years. It was necessary to find work from the established farmers and, at the same time, clear their own land. In the fall, Mr. Zesko, along with Anna and John, would do stooking for other farmers at Donnelly. He also milked cows for these farmers before he began stooking for the day. His payment for this work was \$1.00 per day. During this time, Mrs. Zesko remained at home and completed the necessary chores. In the wintertime selling firewood and sawing logs was quite popular. Firewood had to be hauled to Donnelly.

In the area, there were a few families they could communicate with. They were people of Polish, Ukrainian and Russian descent but the majority were French.

Visiting missionaries of the Church of God of Prophecy had led the Zesko's to join the church in 1937. They built a church on their land and services were held there until 1958. Sundays were staunchly held for worship, visiting and rest.



Jennie, baby Barry, Lydia, Denys, Harry with daughter Beverly Novak.

While in Canada, three more children were added to the Zesko family: Peter, Victor and Vicky.

Through hard persistent work, Andrew Zesko became a prosperous farmer. By 1958 he farmed four quarters of land and had a full line of power machinery. This land is still being farmed and operated by Victor.

Whiteland School provided education for John, Jennie, Victor and Vicky. In 1958 Mr. Zesko bought a parcel of land from Mr. Langhodge on the west side of the Peace River and built a modern home. He continued to farm with his son, Victor. The Zesko's enjoyed life in the town of Peace River.

After a brief illness, Andrew Zesko passed away early in the morning on November 21, 1971 in the Peace River Hospital. His wife, Efrosinja Zesko, passed away on May 28, 1979. Both are buried in the Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Peace River.

CHILDREN:

1) Anna: n. 1918 m. 22-11-1936 2m.
12-07-1949

John Romaniuk: (see ROMANIUK, John)

2) John: m. 18-11-1949

Olga Novak:

They have five children: Ernie, Janice, David, Linda and Mark.

3) Jennie: n. 12-03-1928 m. 12-11-1947

Harry Novak:

They have four children: Denys, Lydia, Beverly and Barry.

4) Peter: living at the Sutherland Nursing Home in Peace River.

5) Victor: m. 14-12-1968

Hilda Sperling

They have two children: Jody and Melanie.

6) Vicky: m. 30-04-1966

Lloyd Yankowsky

a) Loren

Jennie's recollection of life in Guy

My earliest recollection of our home was a small log cabin and yard full of chickens. Just across the road lived my playmates, the children of the Abramovich and Shybungia families who came the same time my parents did.

I have fond memories of our school. In the summertime we walked the 1 1/2 miles to school while in winter the three families took turns driving us in a homemade caboose with a tiny airtight heater.

It wasn't too long before I realized that my parents worked hard. During the summer I saw them clear land with an axe and a grub hoe. As we grew older, we helped. I still bear the scar on my hand from an accidental hit while clearing

land. At 14 I was able to harness four horses and hook them to a binder and drive it for my Dad.

I have fond memories of my teenage years. Since Sundays were rigidly kept as days of rest, we had a chance to put on our best clothes and visit with the young people. When the Church of God missionaries came in and established a church, Sundays became our days of worship also.

The war years were exciting. There was an influx of new songs. There were sad moods to see the young men go to war and happy moments to see them come home on furlough. The economy began to revive and people were charged up with a new zeal and expectation.

In 1947, by invitation, our whole family attended a church service in a large tent in Reno. After the service I met and befriended Harry Novak who served in the army 4 1/2 years and now was back home. We met in July and on the 12th of November, 1947, we were married.

* * *

Durant la première guerre mondiale, la famille d'Andrew ainsi que d'autres résidents, ont quitté Brest pour Kazansk à l'est afin de survivre. C'est là qu'il rencontra Efrosinja et en 1917 ils se marièrent. Après la guerre ils retournèrent à Brest (qui était devenu une partie de la Pologne) et continuèrent leur vie de simples paysans.

Des nouvelles d'une vie meilleure et de terrains gratuits au Canada leur parvinrent par des agences de voyages et par ceux qui s'y trouvaient déjà. Au printemps 1930 ils partirent pour le Canada avec leurs trois enfants. Arrivant à Québec ils se rendirent à Swan River, Manitoba, où les attendaient la soeur et le beau-frère de Mme Zesko. Harasim Zesko (cousin d'Andrew), sa famille et son frère David arrivèrent aussi en 1930.

On reçut des nouvelles des familles Abramovich et Romaniuk qui étaient à Guy depuis quelques mois. Du terrain était disponible là. Les trois familles se rendirent à Donnelly par train en décembre. Daniel Abramovich et Mike Segula les rencontrèrent et ils vécurent chez John Romaniuk pendant trois semaines jusqu'à ce qu'ils achètent un "homestead" et bâtissent une maison dans la région de l'école Benoît.

Après avoir vécu là trois ans ils se rendirent compte que le sol était trop rocailleux, alors ils déménagèrent à Guy. Là ils bâtirent deux graineries qui servaient de maison en attendant la

construction d'une maison. Pour celle-ci ils se servirent d'une scie manuelle apportée des vieux pays pour fendre le bois en planches. Cette maison fut démolie en 1986.

L'abondance de lièvres leur procurait de la viande. En Pologne, seule l'élite avait accès à la chair de lièvre. On faisait fondre de la neige pour avoir assez d'eau à boire. En été des puits peu profonds étaient creusés.

La survie était difficile. Il fallait travailler pour les fermiers déjà établis et en même temps avoir son propre terrain. M. Zesko, Anna et John plaçaient les gerbes en quintaux pour des fermiers de Donnelly. La paye était de 1,00 \$ par jour. Mme Zesko s'occupait de la ferme en attendant. En hiver, vendre du bois de chauffage et scier des billots était commun.

Il y avait peu de familles avec lesquelles ils pouvaient communiquer: des polonais, ukrainiens et russes. En 1937 des Missionnaires de l'Eglise du Dieu de Prophétie ont invité les Zesko à se joindre à eux. Ils bâtirent une église sur leur terrain. Les dimanches étaient réservés pour le culte et le repas.

Avec un travail persistant Andrew devint un fermier prospère. Trois nouveaux enfants sont venus compléter la famille.

L'école de Whiteland procura l'éducation à John, Jennie, Victor et Vicky. En 1958, Andrew acheta une parcelle de terre du côté ouest de Peace River et bâtit une maison moderne. Il continua à cultiver avec Victor. Le couple jouit de leur vit à Peace River.

Les souvenirs de Guy par Jennie

Mon premier souvenir de notre foyer est une maison en bois rond et une cour pleine de poulets. De l'autre côté de la route vivaient nos amis de jeux les Abramovich et les Shyburnia.

Très tôt je m'aperçus du montant de travail qu'accomplirent nos parents. L'été je les ai vus défricher à la hache et à la pioche. A quatorze ans je pouvais harnacher quatre chevaux et les atteler à une faucheuse-lieuse et les conduire pour mon père.

Les années de guerre étaient excitantes avec l'apparition de chansons nouvelles. Il y avait des moments tristes quand les jeunes hommes partaient à la guerre et des moments joyeux quand ils venaient en congés.

En 1947, sur invitation, notre famille alla à un service religieux sous une grande tente à Reno. Après le service j'ai rencontré Harry Novak qui avait servi dans l'armée pendant quatre ans et demi et qui était de retour. Nous nous sommes mariés en novembre.

ZESKO, HARASIM & VASALIUK, CHRISTINA

John & Mary Zesko

Harasim Zesko was born March 2, 1896 at Cummunista, Jouralitza in White Russia.

Christina Vasaliuk was born July 19, 1898 at Brest, Litovsk, White Russia. They were married in 1917 in White Russia. During the 1918 Civil War both Poland and Russia were in economic chaos. Money was worthless and manufactured goods were unobtainable. Then in 1921 a great drought occurred. Famine and disease were widespread, many people died. Harasim was in the army during the Civil War and was wounded twice. It was during these revolutionary years that Christina and her two children were running away from the war; food was scarce, so was clothing. Then one cool rainy night while sleeping under haystacks, both children developed pneumonia and died at the age of two and three years, two days apart. Christina then went to work for a jewish family just for food to survive.



Harasim and Christina Zesko, Paul, Olga, Vera.

After the revolution she returned to Brest, Litovsk to live with her grandfather, as her parents had died earlier. Harasim had been wounded and had returned sooner. The border between Poland and White Russia had changed during the revolution. Brest Litovsk was now under Polish rule. Peter, Paul, Olga and Vera were born in Brest, Litovsk. At the age of three and a half, Peter became suddenly ill and died. Paul was only two weeks old.

Christina had inherited some land, approximately seven hectares (morgs) after her grandfather died. However, the economic conditions were very poor. They had heard about the homesteads you could get cheaply in Canada. So in 1930 they decided to emigrate to Canada. Christina left behind two sisters and Harasim left

behind three sisters in Poland. They sold all their property and on May 14, 1930 they left Brest, Litovsk for Warsaw. Accompanying them to Canada were the Andrew Zesko family and Harasim's brother, Dave.

Upon being examined by a doctor in Warsaw, Harasim and Christina's children, Paul, Olga and Vera were discovered to have measles and chicken pox, so they were detained in Warsaw for two months. Meanwhile, the Andrew Zesko family left for Canada, to meet their relatives the Jacob Shybungia family at Swan River, Manitoba. The Shybungias had come to Canada a year earlier.

Finally on July 26, 1930 Harasim and family left Warsaw for Gdansk where they boarded the ship "The White Star Line" bound for Quebec at a cost of 4769 zloty. For \$75.00 the five of them, Harasim 34, Christina 32, Dave 19, Paul 4, Olga 2, and Vera 5 months travelled from Quebec to Winnipeg by train. Then again they took the train from Winnipeg to Swan River, where they were met by the Andrew Zesko and Jacob Shybungia families. They all stayed at the Shybungias at Swan River. That is where Vera became ill and died at the age of nine months.

The land at Swan River was too rocky to farm, so the Shybungias decided to join their friends at Guy, Alberta where they were told the soil was better. The Shybungias knew the Abramovich's and the Abramovich's knew the Romaniuks of Guy. The Andrew Zesko family, Harasim Zesko family, Dave Zesko and the Shybungias all came by train to Edmonton and then on to Donnelly. They arrived just before Christmas in 1930 and stayed at the Romaniuks for six weeks until the Shybungias built their own home. In the meantime, they all applied for homesteads and got them. Andrew Zesko built on his homestead and Harasim and Dave built on Harasim's homestead.

Coming to Guy was a big disappointment as they had left behind a home, open land even though it was a small amount, a pear orchard in the backyard, and their relatives. Here there was no house; just bush, no food, it was very cold, and they faced a language barrier. Had they had any money left they probably would have returned to Poland.

The first homestead they got from the Department of Lands and Forests for \$10.00 was all gravel, so Harasim gave it up and got another quarter with much better soil; there they built their first house. The first house on NE 7-76-20-W5 was very small, built of round rough logs, with a dirt floor and a sod roof. It was lived in till a medium sized house was built. The logs were hewn by Harasim and Dave Zesko with a broad

axe from the outside and sawn by hand lengthways on the inside. Boards sawed in a sawmill owned by Ernest Brulotte were used for the floor and slabs were used for the roof. These slabs were used to cover the cracks. The boards were received in exchange for labor. The roof was later reconstructed by Stanley Olshanowski with new material and tar paper.

This is the house John Zesko was born in; also twin girls born prematurely in 1937. They died several hours after birth. This land is now owned by Victor Zesko. All the buildings have been demolished now.

For entertainment in the early years there were picnics, ballgames and races. During the winter everybody attended church services. There were card tournaments and box socials. People would go for miles with a team of horses and wagon to see a silent and still picture show. The people took turns in having house parties. Refreshments consisted of wine made from beets.

Paul and Olga attended the Peavine School. This school was built six miles away. They stayed at relatives and neighbors during the cold weather and used a sled equipped with a caboose drawn by one horse when the weather was warmer. They rode horseback in the spring and summer. The opening of the Benoit school was welcomed, being only two and one half miles away.

The land on the NE 7-76-20-W5 was brushed by axe. If a tree was too large, it was dug around the root by shovel. After the brush piles were burnt, the field was broken by horses. There were about sixty acres broken by tractor.

Wheat and oats were the main crops grown during the first years, the oats being fed to the horses, cows and pigs. The pigs were butchered for meat and sold for market. Wild rabbits and partridge were trapped and snared and the odd deer we shot supplied the greater part of the meat supply.

The land taxes could be paid by cash or labour. On November 13, 1938 hourly rates paid for labour on road clearing were 40 cents per hour and an additional 40 cents was paid for a team of horses. At that time the foreman was L.B. Turcotte and timekeeper was Arthur Gosselin.

The first tractor was purchased around 1943 for \$1700. A 1943-K5 International truck was purchased August 10th, 1946 for \$500. On August 21, 1946 a new Massey Harris seven foot number 16 binder was bought for \$417.65. Also a fanning mill was bought October 11, 1946 for \$64.00. The fuel in 1946 was \$11.52 for a 45 gallon barrel.

Clearing land was difficult so in 1940 Harasim

sold his machinery and moved to Cold Stream near Vernon, where he had planned on buying a few acres of orchard. But after working in the orchard for a year and a half, he found the work hard with poor pay. Since Paul wanted to return to farming he moved his family back to Guy in 1942.



R.1 Richard & Sandra. R.2 Mary, John Zesko.

By 1946 many of the Ukrainian and Polish settlers in Guy began to move to other places. Much of the land was purchased by the French people from Quebec. In 1947 Harasim regained contact with Sam Pedda and Fred Skowarodko, and they convinced Harasim that the land was better in Rycroft. So in 1947 he purchased NW ¼-25-78-5-W6 from Mike Marusiak. They moved to Rycroft in July. Harasim's health was failing and shortly after surgery on November 21, 1947 he passed away from cancer of the stomach.

Olga's wedding plans had been made so eight days after her father's death on November 29, 1947 Olga married Jim Kennedy. They lived in McLennan, Grande Prairie, Manning and Fairview. In 1966 they moved to Chetwynd, B.C. and Jim began working for B.C.R. They then moved to Taylor and back to Chetwynd. They had six children and at the age of 53 Olga passed away from cancer on April 22, 1981. She left Jim, their six children and five grandchildren.

Christina enjoyed her life much more in Rycroft as she had many Ukrainian neighbors. They would all meet at a certain place on Sunday for their weekly visit. No one worked on Sundays.

At age 18 John went to work for oil rigs for the next five years. In the fall he always came home to help with the farming. Paul and John continued to farm at Rycroft and Guy. They moved

their machinery via Watino on the ferry. Paul stayed at Rycroft with his mother and hauled firewood for the people of Rycroft, grain for farmers and did general trucking. In 1956 Paul purchased his first International gravel truck. After seeding, he would haul gravel for the government and privately. In 1958 they sold their land at Guy. In 1959 John bought his own gravel truck and began hauling gravel with his brother.

In 1964 John married Mary Ewach, a registered nurse from Manning. They have two children, Sandra born May 22, 1965 and Richard born October 21, 1967.

John purchased five more quarters of land, Paul had four quarters. Most of this land was forest and had to be cleared.

By 1975 Paul and John spent more time on the farm and less on hauling gravel. They had purchased a lot of new equipment for the farm.

Christina Zesko had her first stroke in March of 1966. Since that time her health slowly deteriorated and by 1972 she was unable to care for herself, so she stayed in Pleasant View Lodge in Spirit River. By 1975 she had several more strokes and in October 1975 she was moved to Central Park Lodge (nursing home in Grande Prairie). On April 3, 1976 at the age of 77 Christina passed away from congestive heart failure.

Paul continued to live by himself until his death in an automobile accident near Sexsmith on July 2, 1978.

Paul had worked hard most of his life. He had cleared a lot of land and also custom clearing in his young years. He also worked in sawmills, falling trees.

Later in his life he hauled grain and firewood before natural gas came in and did a lot of custom hauling, including gravel. It was only in the last ten years of his life that life became easier. He enjoyed boating, camping, and hunting.

Since Paul's death, John has quit hauling gravel. The John Zesko family is presently farming all the land and we continue to live in the Village of Rycroft.

Harasim Zesko: n. 02-03-1896 m. 1917 d. 21-11-1947

Christina Vasaliuk: n. 19-07-1898 d. 03-04-1976

CHILDREN:

- 1) Paul: n. 1926 d. 02-07-1978
- 2) Olga: n. 1928 m. 29-11-1947 d. 22-04-1981
Jim Kennedy. They have six children.
- 3) Vera: n. -02-1930 d. at 9 months
- 4) John: n. m. 1964
Mary Ewach
a) Sandra: 22-05-1965

* * *

Harasim et Christina se sont mariés en Russie en 1917. Durant la guerre civile Harasim fut blessé à deux reprises. L'argent ne valait rien et une sécheresse apporta la famine et la maladie. Christina se sauvait devant la guerre avec ses deux enfants. La nourriture et les vêtements étaient rares. Un soir qu'ils couchaient sous un meulon de foin les deux enfants développèrent une pneumonie et moururent à deux jours d'intervalle. Christina alla travailler pour une famille juive pour sa pension.

Après la révolution, elle retourna à Brest chez ses grands-parents. Peter, Paul, Olga et Vera sont nés là mais Peter mourut soudainement.

Christina avait hérité d'un peu de terre de son grand-père mais les conditions économiques étaient bien pauvres. En 1930, ils décidèrent de venir au Canada. Ils arrivèrent à Québec, et pour 75,00 \$ pour cinq passagers ils se rendirent à Winnipeg. Ensuite ils se rendirent à Swan River, Manitoba, où les attendaient Andrew Zesko et Jacob Shybunia. Tous demeurèrent chez Shybunia. C'est là que Vera est décédée à neuf mois. Tous décidèrent de venir à Guy pour y prendre du terrain et ils demeurèrent chez Romaniuk pendant trois semaines.

Venir à Guy fut un gros désappointement car ils avaient abandonné un foyer, du terrain ouvert, un verger de poires et leur parenté. Ici il n'y avait pas de maison: seulement du bois, pas de nourriture, c'était froid et il y avait un obstacle de langue. À défaut d'argent ils ne purent retourner en Pologne.

Le premier "homestead" était du gravier, alors Harasim en obtint un autre et y bâtit une petite maison avec un plancher et un toit en

terre. Ils bâtirent une autre maison plus grande avec des billots coupés par Harasim et Dave Zesko. Des planches pour le toit et le plancher furent sciées au moulin d'Ernest Brulotte. On échangea du travail pour les planches.

Comme loisirs il y avait des pique-niques, des parties de balle et des courses. Durant l'hiver tout le monde allait aux services d'église. Il y avait des parties de cartes et des soirées de paniers. On faisait du vin avec des betteraves.

Paul et Olga fréquentèrent l'école Peavine qui était à six milles. L'ouverture de l'école Benoît fut la bienvenue puisqu'elle était à deux milles et demi.

Après avoir défriché à la hache, on fit le cassage avec des chevaux. On sema du blé et de l'avoine, celle-ci servant à soigner les chevaux, les vaches et les porcs. Le porc servait de viande et était vendu au marché. Les lièvres et perdrix étaient pris aux pièges et aux collets, et avec le rare chevreuil, nous fournissaient de viande.

En 1940, Harasim vendit sa machinerie et alla à Cold Stream près de Vernon pensant acheter un verger mais le travail était dur et les recettes pauvres. Comme Paul voulait cultiver ils revinrent à Guy.

Ils déménagèrent à Rycroft en 1947 mais Harasim mourut de cancer en novembre.

Olga épousa Jim Kennedy et ils vécurent à McLennan, Grande Prairie, Manning et Fairview, Chetwynd et Taylor. Olga est morte de cancer.

Christina aimait la vie à Rycroft puisqu'il y avait plus d'ukrainiens et elle s'y fit des amis. En 1966 elle eut une attaque de cœur et sa santé se détériora jusqu'à sa mort en 1976.

Paul et John continuèrent à cultiver à Rycroft et à Guy, déménageant leurs instruments aratoires sur le traversier de Watino.

Après la mort de Paul la famille John Zesko cultiva tout le terrain tout en demeurant à Rycroft.



Whitemud Creek



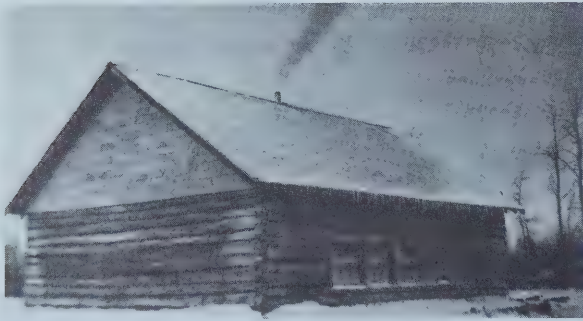
Charles Dumont crossing Smoky River, 1930.

WHITEMUD CREEK

by Lorane Dumont

Pioneers have left their mark; they have carved and shaped the land, Dreamers and artists, hurting in such a harsh environment, are trying in their own special way to hold on to the accomplishments of this vanishing breed of independent, industrious and adventurous people.

We feel that our parents and our own generation which is moving from the pioneer to the computer era have greatly changed the landscape of the thousands of acres in that part of Alberta known as Whitemud Creek, subdivision of the Smoky River, M.D. #130. We are proud to have lived in that transitional period of time.



First school built in Whitemud Creek in 1935.

THE LITTLE SMOKY RIVER CROSSING

by Philip Lapensée

The location where the ferry eventually operated was originally the crossing of the Little Smoky River where the Indians travelled from Grouard to The Edson trail passing by the mission at Sturgeon Lake; this same crossing was used by land surveyors in approximately 1910. It was the only access from the north to the Whitemud Creek area until the ferry was put into service in 1946.

The first land taken in the Whitemud district was just after the First World War, and was taken by Bert Doris Sr. and Tom Killips. At that time they were living in Edmonton and had been told by land surveyors that part of this area was prairie land with beautiful black loam.

In the fall of 1945 the Department of Public Works built a ferry on the north bank of the river just a few hundred yards upstream from where the Indians crossed the river. Jubilant were the Whitemud Creek residents when the ferry was in operation in the spring of 1946. The ferry was used from spring to freeze-up, then the travellers would have to wait to cross the frozen river. For emergencies there was the use of the basket. It was as a last resort. The last crossing before



Crossing the ferry in 1955.

freeze-up was very hazardous at times. Several trucks full of grain did not make it across; the whole load was lost and a few days work were required to get the vehicle back to shore.

In 1957 the Little Smoky River bridge was built when the highway from Donnelly Corner to Valleyview (Highways 2 and 34) were constructed. This proved of immense help to all residents across the river.

When the Blue Bridge was built south of Girouxville in 1962 the ferry service was discontinued. Mr. Jos Vincelette purchased the ferry and operated it for his own use, to get to his farm across the river, until his death in 1962. That fall the ferry was not pulled out of the river at freeze-up so during the spring break-up it drifted with the ice; it anchored at different spots during the next few summers and eventually stuck in the mud about one mile downstream past the Blue Bridge.

In Elizabeth Haestie's book, "Ferries and Ferry-men of Alberta", obtained from the Glenbow Museum she lists the operators at the Little Smoky River Crossing: Arthur St. Pierre (1947-53), Phillipe Dechambre (1952), Oden Blagen (1953), Napoleon Paul & Alger Bellerose (1954), Alfred Smith & Harvey Rivard (1955), Henry Squires & Leslie Howie (1956), Yvon Arnaud (1957-61), Jeannot Simard (1957), J.C. Lacourse & Max Lefrançois & Lyster Dufour (1958), August Audet & Raymond Fontaine (1959-61), Emile Bachand & Edward Cloutier (1962), Clarence Morin & Roy Jackson & G. Driver & M. Leganchuk (1963).

FEBRUARY SWIM AT THE FERRY

by August Audet

At the end of January and beginning of February 1962, we had a big chinook that melted all the snow. There was glare ice all over. On the morning of February 1st, my wife left with the car to go do the washing in town. There was about 5" of

water running on top of the river ice, but she crossed okay. It melted and rained all that day and night. The next morning, it starting to get cooler, so I decided to go with the grain truck to put chains on my wife's car and tell her to wait until late afternoon the next day to come home. I headed back for home at about midnight, with a barrel of gas and a load of feed. The roads were very slippery by then. When I got to the river crossing I stopped on top of the embankment, because I could see a car stalled partways on the river bank. I went to see what the matter was and it was Corky Reid's car. He told me he had tried to cross the ice and that the water was about 1 1/2 feet deep, and of course his car had stalled half-way in the water. So we figured that if I took the fan belf off my grain truck, we could get across, even if the water had come up to about 3 feet over the ice. We took the fan belf off and I started across, with my door open and foot jamming it; Corky just opened his window. Well by the time we realized the water was too deep, the current had pulled and turned the truck in the middle of the river, and we were fighting to get on top of the truck. I remember Corky, who was quite a husky fellow, having a heck of a time climbing out of his open window. We stood on top of the truck cab, my load of feed floating down the river and nowhere to go. There was about 1 foot of water over the cab. Of course it was cold. We were all wet, so I told Corky the only thing to do was to try and swim to shore or we would die of exposure. So in we dove and swam for shore fighting ice- floes all the way. Good thing Corky was taller than I was, his feet touched bottom and he reached out for me, just in the nick of time!

My strength was starting to give out. We managed to pull each other out. Then we had to walk 1/2 mile to get to Joe Vincelette's house. I'm telling you, its not easy to walk on icy roads with icy moccasins. That's what Corky was wearing, I wasn't so bad off, because I had boots on. But we made it to Vincelettes. Yvonne, opened the door and burst out laughing when she saw us. Apparently, we still had each a cigarette butt in our mouths and icicles on our faces and our clothes were frozen stiff. Joe came along, finally, to let us in. I hope that I never again have to go swimming on the 2nd of February. It's too cold!

What had happened was that snow and ice-floes had dammed the river downstream from Vincelette's place, and backed up the water. There was about 9 feet of water on top of the ice because the ice had caved in the middle of the river, because of the weight of the water on it. The next morning, when we went to check on

the truck and Corky's car, the water was starting to go down. That's when I noticed that the seat of my truck was frozen to the roof of the cab. What a mess! I made a raft so I could go and check on the rest of the truck, while Vincelette pulled Corky's car out of the river and towed it to his place with his grain truck. They came back and tried to help me, but they couldn't pull my truck out, because his truck had no traction to pull me up the slope. Just then my wife and family drove up in the car. My wife thought for sure that I was dead. She said she was so scared she couldn't even call out. She got out of the car to go and talk to the men on the shore. Then I noticed her, so I yelled and waved to let her know I was okay. She was so relieved, she started running towards the men standing on the shore; she slipped, fell on her bum and slid down to the bottom of the slope. The children didn't know what was going on until we explained to them what had happened. I remember Daniel asking me, "Dad, why did you park the truck there?" Later that evening a D-6 Cat came by and pulled the truck out. There was still quite a bit of water, but I went with the raft to hook the cable on the truck. We pulled it into Vincelette's garage. I worked on the truck for about a week and kept the wood furnace going day and night to thaw everything out. I had to take the truck apart, engine, rear- end, transmission, wheels, and so on, dry the pieces out and put them back together again. I then put oil, grease, brakefluid, gas, and a new battery in it, started it and it worked better than before. It was quite an experience, but everything turned out okay.

LITTLE EGG LAKE RANCH

as remembered by Dick Kirpatrick, written by Roderick Caron and Ernest Gagnon.

The Armstrong Bros. were the first to ranch in the Whitemud area south of Watino in 1910. Access to the ranch was by fording the river at Watino and following the Indian trails. They raised cattle and horses – horses sold to the Indians. They left in 1918.

Later Mr. Davidson, first name unknown, came from Ontario in 1920 and took over the Armstrong lease. Access to the land was the same route and as difficult as what the Armstrongs encountered. He built a herd of 200 to 300 head of cattle which he looked after himself. In his dealings with the Indians from Sturgeon Lake he would get their help in putting up hay in return for trapping rights on the Davidson lease around the Little Egg Lake. Shipping his cattle through Falher was quite a hazardous task. Later on facilities were built in Watino to accommodate the



Rancher Davidson, Little Egg Lake Ranch.

shipping. At times the cattle had to be brought over the frozen river. In the late summer of 1935 after haying season was completed and the Indians had returned to their homes, a younger friend, a male nurse, went out to visit him and to hunt but could not locate him. Returning from the ranch, he reported Davidson missing to the R.C.M.P. Shortly after the body was found a short distance from the buildings, apparently quite decomposed. Davidson was buried by the ranch.

Mr. John Hansen born in Denmark in 1892 came to Canada in 1923. He worked for a short while in Saskatchewan before coming to Alberta where he homesteaded on the banks of the Little Smoky River near Watino in 1929 until 1940. Then he took over the Little Egg Lake Ranch raising whitefaced cattle till ill health forced him to retire in 1960. His friendly disposition gained him many friends. Many enjoyed the hospitality of his ranch which is in an area rich in big game. He was buried in the Watino Cemetery on November 14, 1961.

From 1963 to 1965 a group of local farmers formed a private cooperative and attempted to pursue ranching in the same area. Don Cote, Sig Arndt, Joe and Ernest Gagnon, Henry and John Minarovich and Alex Forgie obtained the land as a grazing lease. Only the south portion of this lease completely surrounding the Little Egg Lake, had to be fenced; natural boundaries, rivers and canyons made fencing elsewhere unnecessary. In 1965 the operation was discontinued and the land reverted back to the crown.



Miss Nordtorp — 1st nurse in front of nurse's cottage.

A DISTRICT NURSE AT WHITEMUD CREEK

Beth Laycraft Tachit

I was born at Veteran, Alberta but moved with my family to High River where I received most of my schooling. I trained as a nurse at the Lamont Public Hospital, graduating in 1941. I did general duty nursing for some months but decided to switch to District Nursing as it appealed to me more and I liked the idea of frontier life. I have never regretted that decision. Though there were a few times I wasn't so sure such as when I had absolutely no water at Whitemud Creek and had to hang on to a willow and reach into a puddle of water in the dried up creek with a cup to scoop up a precious painful.

But that is getting ahead of my story. I was told I was to go to the nursing station at Whitemud Creek. Get off the N.A.R. at Falher. Fall Her—what a strange name. When I got there I found that the town as well as the name was French. The "h" in the name was silent and the accent on the last syllable—Fa-Lair. That was easy.

The start of my big adventure was in Edmonton. But the train was three hours late leaving. I was on the seventh section of the first daily train to Dawson Creek. My start in the Peace River country co-incided with the start of the Alaska Highway. The train was loaded with Americans—all men. I was the only woman on the train. I got off next morning about six with a few others and was directed to wait in the lobby of the hotel. I must admit that it was rather primitive. No heat (not even in winter) and toilet facilities such as they were under lock and key. The manager stirred about eight. My next problem was to get out to Whitemud twenty-six miles away. Well luck was with me. It was pig shipping day and Rosaire Nairon was in town and agreed to take me out. He had a lumber wagon and a team of spirited horses of which he was very proud. Between the speed of his team and the jolting of the lumber wagon my head hurt for weeks.

There was no bridge and no ferry. We had to

ford the Little Smoky. Down the hairpin turns past Thibodeaus and Vincellettes we went. Across the first channel across the island and then the second channel and up the other side—a total of four miles I was told.

I was expected and, as we went along, settlers would run out to welcome the new nurse and also to have a medical consultation and order certain medications which were to be sent next day with the mailman, Dick Reade.

I was replacing Anne Nordtorp who had been the first nurse at Whitemud but she stayed on a few days to help me get acquainted with the work, the district and the style of living. And I must say that was different.

The Nursing Service was run by the provincial government from Edmonton. The community supplied the living accommodation and the nurses supplied a treatment service as well as a public health service. The patients supplied transportation for the home visits. I dreaded the wagon trips through the ruts and over the stumps of the bush trails and let out word that I would ride anything—thereby creating the myth that I was a rodeo rider. Thelma Gunn loaned me a small cayuse named Bunny. She was wiry and tough and could jog for hours but would jump over a ditch sideways if a partridge flew up. But I travelled many miles on her back with my Stanley Bag (holding drugs and equipment) tied to my saddle.



District Nurse for Whitemud, Beth Tachit — Laycraft.

The first year I was there there were only three vehicles in the community. Both Herby Doris and Odin Blagen had trucks and Leo Cote had a little light delivery which had seen better days. The springs on the seat were bare but when I rode with him he folded a gunny sack for me. Everyone was most considerate of the nurse's comfort and gave her the best of treatment. This vehicle of Leo's had no low gear and couldn't climb the river hills in second so he would back up the hills instead. My job was to hold the

flashlight. We never had any trouble and I was never frightened. Rosaire Nairon, who had started a little store, later got a truck too.

What did frighten me was the freeze-up of the river in the fall and the break-up in the spring. We couldn't get in or out. There were no phones—no communication of any sort. I used to have nightmares about kids with ruptured appendicitis and lumbermen with fractured backs. However, in the two years I served there we got through those potentially bad seasons without problems.

Living conditions were simple and practical. I had a three room log cabin: one kitchen-living room with cook stove and airtight heater, one bedroom with dresser and an apple box cupboard and bed. And there was the office with a rough examining table and shelves of drugs and equipment and a small desk with a file box for patients' records. There was no well and water was brought from the creek behind my house in summer. Ice was put up in the ice house every winter for summer drinking water. The ice house consisted of a few rounds of logs with layers of ice packed with snow and covered with a great pile of sawdust. Getting the ice out was a major chore and one which I never did well. Sometimes the boys of the community would help me but they didn't like the job either. In the winter I filled a 50 gallon barrel with snow, melting it down as I went along. Mrs. Cote warned me not to get it where there were rabbit tracks. They were very abundant that year and the little black balls they left were most undesirable in your water supply. After the drought of the fall that barrel of lovely soft water seemed like pure luxury. Each family was expected to bring the nurse a load of firewood. When the community sawing bees were on, the nurse's house was included. The hostess always made the meals as needed and supplied liberal lunches for the coffee breaks. Then the green blocks of wood had to be split while they were still frozen and piled to cure for the following year. Some unkind folks did suggest that I should really stand in a tub when I split wood but I did get it all split and piled and enjoyed the exercise and novelty of it all. I had been raised where we burned natural gas so it was all new to me.

I used to go riding with the young folks many evenings. The northern lights danced over the sky almost every night. What a spectacular display! And once, in the early evening they seemed much closer and dancing everywhere over the whole sky. Every family made a point of inviting the nurse for supper and, of course, any time you made a nursing trip you were fed.

Next door to the west lived the George Reades. George was the postmaster. The mail came once a week on Saturdays and was hauled by Dick Reade in a two-wheeled cart. Dick also did shopping errands too—a spool of thread, a radio battery, a money order. Everyone gathered at Reade's while the mail was sorted on the kitchen table. First the letters, then the parcels and finally the Free Press Weekly which almost everyone got. In the bedroom the young girls would be opening their Eaton parcels and trying on the new finery or else complaining about the substitutions or the delays in shipping. It was war time you know and everything was in short supply. The youngest daughter Nadia was my constant companion spending a good part of every day with me. She was ten and a dear child.

To the east lived Jim Sinclair, an old Scotch Bachelor. He allowed me to keep my saddle horse in his barn and more than once waited up to help me out of the saddle after a long trip to New Fish Creek (fifty-four miles there and back which was a long way when it was wet and/or cold.) He would take care of my horse and then come to help me start my fire. I was really grateful. North of me, a mile down the road were the Dick Reades. Mrs. Reade did my washing and they were all dear friends. And further on lived the Macdonalds. Mrs. Macdonald had a piano and we spent many happy hours playing duets together. In the winter we wore our parkas as the house was not finished and very cold. The little two-year old grand-daughter froze her nose in bed. They were a hardy lot. They had to be.

The Gardners lived southwest about a mile. The daughter of the house, Alice was a school teacher and taught school at Whitemud the second year I was there. We had lots of good times together going to dances in the school or maybe playing cards. I remember once the D.A. came out to show some slides and also showed a film of Grey Owl and his beaver. My dog, Pal, watched it for a while but when he thought the beaver got too close chased after them. The crowd thought this hilarious but I was not so amused as, of course, the dog was not supposed to be there but had sneaked after me through the bush.

The community thought it was great to have a nurse and many matchmakers attempted to make my stay there permanent. Some were quite frank about it but I always asked who they had in mind for a husband for me. (Didn't I have a right to know?) They would usually name one of the young men of the area but the plans of men "gang aft agley" and I didn't stay in that community. I lived there two years through births and

deaths, accidents and illnesses of many kinds. And through it all I had immunization clinics for diphtheria and whooping cough. I advised on nutrition and child care and tried with some success, I hope, to promote a more healthful style of living.

When I left Whitemud I came to Hines Creek where I also nursed for two years. While I was there I met Steve Tachit who later became my husband. We were married at Creston Valley in May of 1947. After a year in Kimberley we came back to Steve's farm at Hines Creek. We have been here thirty-eight years and do not plan to leave.

MISSION SAINT-MARCEL, WHITEMUD CREEK

par Père Jean Marsan, o.m.i.

La mission St-Marcel à Whitemud-Creek a été tour à tour desservie par des prêtres venant soit de Guy, soit de Falher, soit de Girouxville.

Le premier prêtre à s'y rendre semble être l'abbé François Mallet, premier curé de Guy. Il y serait allé probablement deux fois vers 1931 ou 1932.

Le deuxième serait le Père Alonzo Gobeil, o.m.i., qui desservit Guy de Falher après le départ de l'abbé Mallet. Il a dû s'y rendre deux fois avec Médéric Nairon pour visiter les trois ou quatre familles pratiquantes à qui il apportait le secours des sacrements de l'Eglise.

M. l'abbé Camille St-Pierre, curé de Guy, y est allé trois ou quatre fois à l'occasion de Pâques. et, comme les autres, lui, il se retirait chez M. Nairon.

Le curé suivant de Guy, M. l'abbé Paul Gagnon, a fait le voyage à Whitemud Creek une couple de fois lui aussi.

Les gens finirent par trouver qu'ils étaient assez nombreux et ils firent pression pour qu'un



Sister Pierre de Rome c.s.c. and Sr. Madeleine, Father Pinard, o.m.i. in Whitemud Creek.

prêtre de Falher puisse les visiter plus régulièrement. M. Nairon écrivit même une lettre à Mgr Ubald Langlois, o.m.i., Vicaire Apostolique, à Grouard, pour l'informer de la situation. Mgr Langlois fut touché de cette requête. Il invita Médéric Nairon à le rencontrer au Congrès qui devait avoir lieu à Falher à l'été de 1939. C'est alors que Mgr Langlois demanda à M. Nairon de choisir parmi les prêtres présents celui qu'il aimerait avoir comme desservant de la Smoky. Il désigna le Père Louis-Marie Parent, o.m.i., vicaire à Falher. Le Père Parent reçut de Mgr Langlois le mandat de visiter Whitemud Creek une fois par mois, ce qu'il fit généreusement de 1939 à 1942 dans des conditions matérielles parfois très difficiles.

Le 12 août 1940, le Père Alfred Bouchard, o.m.i., écrivait à Mgr Langlois pour l'informer qu'un Monsieur Marcel Bernier, de Lévis, avait fait un don de cinq cents dollars et qu'il lui avait promis qu'une des chapelles du Vicariat porterait le nom de son patron Saint-Marcel. C'est le titre qui fut donc donné à la chapelle de Whitemud Creek. On fit chantier chez M. St-Martin durant l'hiver de 1941 pour préparer le bois qui devait servir à la construction de la première bâtisse, genre presbytère pouvant servir d'abri pour les Pères Oscar Pinard, o.m.i. et Raphaël Lechasseur, o.m.i. et ceux qui les succéderaient.

Le Père Lechasseur vit à la construction de la première chapelle en 1942. Monsieur Nairon, cette même année, construisit un magasin en face de la Mission.

Le 30 mai 1949, le Père Lechasseur commença à célébrer la messe tous les dimanches à cinq heures de l'après-midi selon le nouvel Indult permettant de célébrer à toute heure du jour.

C'est le Père Joachim Campagna qui succéda au Père Lechasseur, il fut le premier prêtre résident à la mission St-Marcel, de 1950 à 1955. Il célébra la première grand'messe de minuit le 25 décembre 1950 et en août 1952 il fit construire par M. Léveillé de Girouxville un petit presbytère de 24' X 18'.

Le 13 juin 1955, le Père Bernard Rainville, o.m.i., fut nommé quasi curé de St-Marcel et il y demeura jusqu'au 13 mars 1956.

Le Père Campagna est le prêtre qui a le plus de baptêmes à son crédit à St-Marcel du 20 mars 1949 au 13 mars 1955, puis du 6 mai 1956 au 30 octobre 1960.

L'abbé Claude De Champlain visita St-Marcel de 1961 à 1963.

Le Père Clément Richer prit charge de la Mission vers la fin de 1963 à 1968. Il proposa en



Rosaire Nairon, truck driver. Mrs. C. Gariepy, Sr. Régine, Sister Pierre, Gertrude Nairon on Sunday outing in Whitemud Creek.

1965 l'achat d'une maison de "Radar" sise à un mille de la Mission. Un peu plus tard, il vendit le presbytère et le garage pour aider à financer l'achat de la salle. Cette salle devint l'église, qui fut rénovée et achevée en 1967.

Le Père Jean-Roch Monfette, o.m.i., professeur à l'Ecole Centralisée de Donnelly fut le dernier à desservir St-Marcel d'une façon régulière de 1969 à 1974, tout en résident au presbytère de Falher.

En 1978, à la demande des citoyens de Whitemud-Creek, la salle qui servait d'église, fut louée pour 25 ans par l'Archidiocèse de Grouard-McLennan au groupe qui voulait organiser un Centre Communautaire sous le nom de Whitemud Creek Community Centre.

* * *

From 1931 to 1939 masses were celebrated infrequently, usually at Easter, in private homes. The priests from Guy, starting with their first priest Father François Mallet, then Father Alonzo Gobeil, o.m.i., Father Camille St. Pierre and Father Paul Gagnon were the ones who made the trip to the Whitemud Creek area to minister to a few Catholic families.

These families wanting more regular Sunday masses made their wishes known in a letter written by Mr. Mederic Nairon to Bishop Ulbald Langlois o.m.i. of the Diocese of Grouard. Bishop Langlois invited Mederic to a Congress held in Falher in the summer of 1939. It is at this occasion that he asked Mr. Nairon to choose the priest that he would like to come to Whitemud Creek. He chose Father Louis-Marie Parent, o.m.i. assistant priest of Falher. Bishop Langlois gave Father Parent the mandate to serve the Whitemud Creek Catholic families once a month which he generously did from 1939 - 1942 in conditions that were often very difficult. On August 12, 1940

Father Alfred Bouchard, o.m.i. wrote to Mgr. Langlois to inform him that a Mr. Marcel Bernier of Levis, P.Q. had made a five hundred dollar gift and that he had promised him that one of the chapels of the Diocese of Grouard would be given the name of his patron Saint Marcel. That was then the name given to the chapel in Whitemud Creek. During the winter of 1941 the logs were cut on St. Martin's land to erect the chapel. When Father Parent left Falher, he was succeeded by Father Oscar Pinard, o.m.i. and Father Raphael Lechasseur, o.m.i. who supervised the building of the chapel in 1942. From May 30, 1949 Father Lechasseur celebrated Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Father Joachim Campagna, o.m.i. succeeded Father Lechasseur. He was the first resident priest at St. Marcel from 1950 to 1955. He celebrated the first Midnight Mass on December 25, 1950 and in 1952 he had a rectory of 24' by 18' built by Mr. Léveillé of Girouxville.

On June 13, 1955 Father Bernard Rainville, o.m.i. became priest of St. Marcel and he stayed until March 13, 1956 at which time the mission was ministered from Guy. Following that, Father Campagna served St. Marcel Mission for ten years.

Father Claude de Champlain also served the mission from Guy from 1961 to 1963.

When Father Clement Richer, o.m.i. from Guy began visiting the mission the Catholic community of St. Marcel needed a larger chapel as its members had increased considerably. In 1965 he proposed that a "Radar" building one mile from the mission be bought to accommodate the larger Catholic community. He then sold the rectory and the garage to help finance the buying of the "Radar" building which became St. Marcel Church. The renovations were finished in 1967.

Father Jean-Roch Monfette, o.m.i. who taught school at G.P. Vanier was the last St. Marcel priest. From 1969 to 1974, while living at the rectory in Falher, he travelled to Whitemud Creek to celebrate Sunday Masses.

After four years of discontinued Sunday services the Whitemud Creek residents made application to the Diocese of Grouard-McLennan to rent the church for twenty-five years to serve as a community centre. This was granted.

WHITEMUD GIRL JOINS THE NUNS OF PRECIOUS BLOOD

by Thelma Rainville

Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Cote moved to Whitemud in 1934 from southern Alberta with five small children and one was born in McLennan. In the photo from left to right back row: Mrs. Marie



Whitemud girl joins the Nuns of Precious Blood. R.1 Russell, Ray Cote. R.2 Marie Leroux, Gloria Vanduze, Sister Doris Cote, Thelma Rainville.

Leroux lives in Falher, Mrs. Gloria Vanduze lives in Brooks, AB., Sr Doris Cote lives in Nelson, B.C., Monastery of Precious Blood. Sr Doris Cote was out this summer and had a family gathering. She'll be celebrating her 40th Anniversary on the 8th of December, 1987.

Mrs. Thelma Rainville lives in Falher, Russell Cote lives in Whitemud, Ray Cote lives in Whitemud farming.

AUBIN, ARTHUR & AUBIN, ODILE

by Lucille Aubin Côté

Mom and Dad, Arthur and Odile Aubin and family were residents of the Whitemud Creek area for a number of years.

They acquired their land in the thirties when my grandmother, Mrs. Pierre Aubin and Mom filed on the N $\frac{1}{2}$ -10- 75-22. Initially they only stayed long enough to make the necessary residence required to keep the land in those days. A set amount of acres also had to be cleared every year. Dad did much of this hard work between jobs. It wasn't until nineteen thirty-seven that we moved permanently.

Dad continued the hard task of opening the land while working for farmers.

Like for everyone else, life was not easy with six mouths to feed. We always had a milk cow and a few chickens to help provide food. Luckily, Mom was a fantastic seamstress and a resourceful cook, so we never suffered.

Our abode consisted of a one-room log shack



R.1 Louise Côté, Odile Aubin, grandmother, Lucille Côté & Laurie. R.2 Rene & Amos Côté.

but it was home and I can recall a very happy childhood there.

The love of music was always an important part of our lives. Our most cherished memories are of Mom and Dad singing together. I'm certain many readers can reminisce about their rendition of "O Sole Mio!"

How it warms my heart to think how proud we were of them both. In spite of poverty, they scratched up enough money to buy us a five dollar guitar. The three boys, Omer, Roger and Oliver weren't long learning to play. Even Carmen became quite skillful. Although still very young, Oliver's talent in music was much in evidence. He was only six years old and could pick any tune and chord to all the songs we sang.



Arthur & Odile Aubin singing, son Oliva playing the guitar and grandsons Arthur Labbé & Rene Côté.

This acoustic guitar was hard to play and everyone marvelled at the way his young hands could handle this instrument. We spent many hours singing as a family and at house parties. Although the other boys played, Oliver became our chief minstrel.

School was a big concern for our parents as there was none in operation most of the time. We walked 4 1/2 miles one way when it was open. Consequently, we stayed at the convent in Falher as year-round boarders and came home only at Christmas and the end of June. It was during those years that Mom made many trips to town, braved the cold on a stoneboat drawn by our horse to come and sing for Midnight Mass or some other special occasion. This was a thirty-mile trek and it took all day to travel that distance.

Much later, in 1945 Dad bought land closer to town so we could go to school.

Eventually, the boys grew old enough and filed on their own homesteads. Omer acquired the N1/4-14-75-22 and the SW1.4-23-75-22 where he raised his family. Omer later sold this land to Clarence Morin and moved on the NE1/4-9-75-22 where he lived until he moved to Girouxville in 1982. Agnes died in November 1973, and Omer remarried Lucienne Girard in 1978. He's still farming in Girouxville.

Roger filed on the NW1/4-23-75-22. He married Simone Verrette on June 19, 1951. Roger lived on his land and later moved to Falher where he worked at the Co-op. He sold his land to Clément Aubin and is presently living in Edmonton.

Oliver filed on SW1/4-20-75-22. He opened part of this quarter and Jean Parenteau took possession after Oliver dropped it.

It's sad that Dad had to leave us so suddenly with a heart attack in September 1970, as he was planning to establish himself permanently in Whitemud for a while before his retirement.

Mom is now living in the town of Falher and still misses her garden. The grandchildren have inherited much of their musical talent and their love of life.

I'm thankful for the years we spent on the farm. It has given us a rich legacy from Mom and Dad for which we'll be forever grateful.

Arthur Aubin; n.19-06-1904 m.28-10-1926 d.09-1970

Odile Aubin; n.26-04-1906

CHILDREN:

1. Omer; n.01-05-1927 m.24-07-1944

Agnes Côté; n.05-09-1921 d.07-11-1973

2.m. Lucienne Perrault Girard; n.01-08-1932

2.m.; 11-11-1978.

- a) Lorraine; n.19-01-1945 m.
Tom Wilcox. They have two children:
Deanna and Darrin.
- b) Eveline; n.16-05-1946 m.
Roy Jackson. They have two children:
Gary and Liana.
2.m. Ray Hurley.
- c) Randy; n.16-02-1949 m.23-11-1968
Leona Dupuy. They have two children:
Lynan and Beverly
- d) Susan; n.07-03-1951 m.
Ken Elliot. They have six children:
Kevin, Robby, Kristie, Erin, Lindsay and
Corey.
- e) Corine; n.25-03-1953 m.
Clare Hawthorne. They have two children
- f) Marilyn; n.26-08-1957 m.
Rick Holmes;
- g) Richard; n.12-09-1954 m.30-04-1983
Viviane Girard; n.21-08-1960. They have
one child: Omer. Jr.
- h) Gordon; n.26-11-1959 m.
Marie Parenteau. They have two children:
Jimmy and Jennifer.
2. Rollande; n.23-06-1928 m.28-10-1947
Joseph Labbé. They had seven children: Joce-
line, Arthur, Roger, Lorraine, Michel, Daniel
et Suzanne.
3. Roger; n.21-07-1929 m. 19-06-1951
d.19-06-87
Simone Verrette. They have four children:
Michel, André, Denis, Robert.
4. Lucille; n.05-10-1930 m.06-04-1953
Amos Côté; n.27-03-1918. They have two
children.
 - a) René; n.04-02-1954 m.20-09-1981
Laurie King. They have three children:
Cory, Michelle, Jamie
 - b) Louise; n.10-03-1957
5. Carmen; n.21-04-1932 m.
Harold Milroy. They have one son: Harold.
2.m. Gérard Bessette
6. Oliva; n.01-11-1935 m.11-11-1956
Marie Guindon; They have three children:
Carmen, Dorine, Gilbert.

AUDET, AUGUST & MARCEAU, MARGUERITE

by August

I, August (Gus) Audet was born in Falher in 1934, the seventh child of Ephrem Audet and Rose Anna Baillargeon. I married Marguerite Marceau whom I had known all my life, on the tenth of November, 1955 in th Jean-Cote, AB, Catholic church, Father Baril officiating. Marguerite was born in 1938, in Girouxville, the eldest child of Joseph Marceau and Aldea Che-



25th anniversary: August & Marguerite Audet and their family: Paulette, Maurice, Daniel and Laurette.

vette. She went to school in Girouxville until 1952, then in Jean-Cote until 1954. She graduated from grade nine with honors. She then worked as housekeeper-helper and waitress until we were married.

Our first home was a small one-room house in Girouxville rented from Mr. and Mrs. Juneau for \$5.00 per month. Then began a series of moves to wherever work was available: Valleyview, Grande Prairie, Quesnel. In 1958 we tried our hand at farming on SW ¼-26-78-23.

The winter of 1958/59 I stayed home because my wife was having a difficult pregnancy. Our third child, a son, Maurice-Paul, was born on my birthday, January 27, 1959. That boy brought us a lot of pride and joy, and was a wonderful addition to the family. Our other two children were very proud of their baby brother. He was in good health and a very strong baby. He slept all night from the first day he was home. But on March 15, 1959, a Sunday morning, we got up and my wife started making breakfast. My wife was sitting down to have her breakfast, she asked me to check on the baby. I did, and that is when we found out he was dead. He had died of crib-death during the night. He is buried in the Girouxville cemetery.

May 18, 1959 the house we lived in burnt. That fall we lost all our crops again, so that's when I decided to go to work on the ferry, which crossed the Little Smoky River, connecting the Whitemud Creek Road to the Guy, Falher roads.

On the first of April, 1960, I went back to work on the ferry. I moved my family into an old log house about half a mile west of the ferry, on the road going to Whitemud. Mr. Louis Deschambre had built that house many years before.

During the summer of 1960, we took a grazing lease NE ¼ Section 26 Twp. 75 Rge. 22 W5th M. on the west side of the river with a miscellaneous lease of ten acres to build a house, barn, sheds and corrals, and we got some sheep.

In the fall of 1961, we built a log house on our miscellaneous lease, and moved into it in time for Christmas, 1961. In the old log house, as in the new, we had no running water, no bathroom, no power, no phones, and we had to heat with wood. But moving into the new house was sure nice. My wife was very happy because the roof didn't leak and it was only about one hundred fifty feet to carry water from the river. It was also easier to keep warm, because it wasn't so big and it was better insulated.

During the years we were at the ferry all of our relatives and friends loved to come and have picnics with us, and we never lacked for entertainment, as the Marceaus all played mouth organ or guitar; my father-in-law played the fiddle, and my wife played the accordion.

During the early summer of 1962, the government finally came through and built two cabins on the west side of the river, where the old bunk-house used to be, and we moved into one of them. They were quite nice, two bedrooms, a big kitchen and a large porch. They moved the bunk-house closer to the river on the west side, and north of the road.

In 1963, the government decided to build a bridge. There were meetings to decide where the bridge would be built. There was a lot of controversy, about whether it should be built at the ferry-site, but there was no solid base for a footing. So they decided to build the "Blue Bridge" downstream across the Little Smoky River, directly south of Girouxville.

When the bridge was completed the government sold the ferry to Joe Vincelette, and we moved back into our log house, because they moved the ferry houses away. I then had to find work with the local farmers again.

In June of 1964, we closed down our log house and moved back to Girouxville, but we went back often to Whitemud, because we missed the people there a lot.

In the fall of 1970 I started working for Nils-son Brothers sawmill south of Grande Prairie, and since it was a year round job, I decided to move my family to Grande Prairie in May 1971.

In 1972, my wife decided to take the opportunity of going back to school. She went to the Grande Prairie Regional College and did her upgrading, grades 10, 11, 12, then she took her Secretarial Science and B.A. and 112 Accounting, She graduated in April 1974.

From 1971 to 1982 I worked for Canfor Ply-wood in Grande Prairie until I became unable to work because of my health. In 1975 I bought my brother's two lots in Bezanson and we moved there. My wife worked all those years for different companies in Grande Prairie and opened a bookkeeping business in our own home. She is now working part-time for Health and Welfare Canada at their satellite office "Income Security Program" in Grande Prairie, plus she still keeps books at home. Her business is called M.E.A. Bookkeeping Services.

I had my own business for a while, A.A. Septic Tank Draining, but I had to sell that as well as stop working when I got ill. We are still living in the Hamlet of Bezanson today.

Our children are all grown up and on their own. On November 10th 1980, our children, relatives and friend held a surprise celebration in honor of our 25th wedding anniversary.

August Ephrem: n.27-01-1934

m.10-11-1955

Marguerite Estelle Marceau: n.20-01-1938

CHILDREN:

1. Paulette: n.12-05-1956

m.23-03-1974

Richard Cloutier: n.14-06-1950

a) Nicole: n.29-10-1977

b) Joanne: n.18-11-1978

2. Daniel: n.28-05-1957

m.17-08-1985

Terry-Lynn Stenhouse: n.18-07-1966

a) August: n.05-02-1986

3. Maurice-Paul: n.27-01-1959

d.15-03-1959

4. Laurette: n.11-05-1960

m.17-12-1976

Terrill Cissell: n.04-03-1959

a) Dwain: n.08-07-1977

b) Shane: n.27-07-1979

5. Maurice: n.06-08-1965

Paulette and her husband, Richard Cloutier, now live in Grande Prairie, with their two daughters, Nicole and Joanne. Richard has his own backhoe, truck and trailer, and is in business for himself, "Gilrich Construction Ltd."

Daniel and his wife Terry-Lynn, live in Donnelly with their son August, and they are expecting another child in March, 1987. Daniel works as a cat-skinner, carpenter, farm hand, a jack-of-all trades like his Dad.

Laurette and her husband, Terrill Cissell, live on a farm in Bezanson, with their two sons, Dwain and Shane. Terrill has his own truck, picker and high-boy, and is in business for himself, "T.D.S. Trucking".

Maurice is in Montreal, working as a shipper-

receiver and maintenance man for "Les Dentelles St. Henri Inc." He could not find steady work around here or in Edmonton, so in August 1985, he went to Montreal and he has been working there ever since. He is still single.

AUDET, RAOUL & MARCEAU, ROLLANDE

by Rollande

Raoul was born in Falher, son of Ephrem Audet and Rosanna Baillargeon. Raoul married Rollande Marceau, daughter of Romeo Marceau and Anne Marie Remillard.

Raoul and Rollande homesteaded in White-mud in 1959 on section 29-75-22 W5. We were quite isolated; to come to Falher, a distance of thirty-five miles, we had to cross a ferry. It was tough at the outset. Raoul worked as a bar tender for eighteen years and Rollande was doing the farm work: picking roots, driving the tractor, etc. Raoul died in November 1974.



Rollande & Raoul Audet at logging camp.

Two years later Rollande married Armand Bellerive and lived four years on Armand's farm south of Girouxville at which time the couple chose to erect a new log house in Girouxville and retired there.

They now have interesting hobbies: Armand has a wood working shop and Rollande has a sewing room where she enjoys her crafts, one of which is making quilts.

Raoul Audet: n.26-05-1921

m.27-11-1947

d.11-11-1974

Rollande Marceau: n.17-05-1927

2m 17-12-1976 to Armand Bellerive

CHILDREN:

1. Germaine: n.25-10-1949
married to Alde Charette
 - a) Monique: n.11-11-1967
 - b) Wade: n.24-12-1981
2. Lorraine: n.02-10-1950
married to Jim Girard

3. Vivianne: n. 04-11-1952
married to Aaron Kilba
 - a) Chad: n. 03-02-1979
 - b) Conrad: n. 27-10-1980
4. Victor: n.11-07-1956
d.08-10-1977
5. Normand: n.03-04-1965

BRIN, RENE & WATIER, EUPHEMIE

by Bernadette Cote

In 1911, René Brin, son of François and Ménise Gagné, was born in Lachine, Quebec. At the age of eight years he travelled to Western Canada with his family, landing in a small farming area north of Spiritwood, Saskatchewan. In 1936, he met my mother Euphémie, daughter of Louis and Victorine Watier. Euphémie was born in Olga, North Dakota, later came to Saskatchewan with her family. In 1928 she married my father, Yves Goueffic in Blaine Lake, Sask. In April, 1932, Yves was accidentally killed by a horse; two months later I, Bernadette, was born June 23rd. It was very difficult for Euphémie to farm and raise a young child, but she always managed. In 1936, she met and was courted by René Brin; on Sept. 28 they exchanged marriage vows. They remained on the farm, but with no rain, there were poor crops in the 30's. They finally decided to sell and look for greener grass.



Bernadette, René & Euphémie Brin.

They came to Girouxville, AB in 1949, and in 1950 they came to Whitemud Creek, to rent NW 34-74-23-W5. They moved in the spring, crossing on the Smoky River ice. Seismic crews were working in the area therefore kept the roads open, but roads became very muddy, as there was no gravel at that time. In a log house, (with the mosquitos) we were very comfortable. We had a large garden and crops were growing very well until a snow storm hit the area on August 15. On the 16th, we found ¼ inch of ice on the water. That winter Dad had to go to work at the sawmill for Park Bros. to pay the bills.

We moved off the farm to live in the teacherage where I was supervising 13 students working on correspondence courses. In 1953, I was married to Russell Côté, when Mom and Dad bought a quarter just east of Nairon's Store. In 1958, they sold this and purchased Floyd Dumont's farm. They farmed here till 1968 when Mom and Dad sold due to allergies and failing health. They lived in Prince George till 1976, when they returned to the area and settled in Donnelly till they moved to the Nursing Home in McLennan in 1983. Euphémie passed away November 9, 1986. Since then Dad has returned to Donnelly to live in the Senior Citizens' Apartments.

Euphémie Watier: m.1928 d.09-11-1986

1m. Yves Goueffic: d.1932

2m. René Brin: n.1911 m.28-09-1936

ENFANT:

1. Bernadette: n.23-06-1932 m.10-10-1953

Russell Cote: n.15-06-1929

CHALIFOUX BROS.

Gilbert and Gerard Chalifoux started farming in the Whitemud Creek District under the name of Chalifoux Bros. in 1948. During the course of the years they purchased more land and presently farm 5500 acres under the name of Whitemud Farms Ltd.



Whitemud Farms operated by the Chalifoux brothers.

COTE, RALPH & HARRIS, ALICE

by Felix Côté

Dad and Mother (the former Alice Harris) had four children: Lawrence, Felix, Lillian and Allan. All were about four years apart.

Dad, Mother Lillian and Allan moved from Howie which was a community twenty miles east of Cessford, Alberta, which is rolling prairie land, to the Whitemud Creek area in July of 1946. They loaded their belongings which consisted of a cow, horse, dog, tractor and machinery on a railroad car and shipped it to Falher. A neighbor from the prairie, Walter Besse, rode in the railroad car and tended to the animals.



Getting horse power.

Dad, Mom, Lillian and Allan drove up in a 1935 Ford half ton pickup truck. Dad had four brothers already settled in the Whitemud Creek area. They had moved from the Prairie in 1934 so were quite established by this time. Dad took a homestead on two quarters of land: NW 23-74-23-W5th and SW 26-74-23-W5th. The closest neighbor was Mrs. Florence Gardner, who also came from Cessford in 1934. Mrs. Gardner and her husband Tom owned a general store in Cessford.

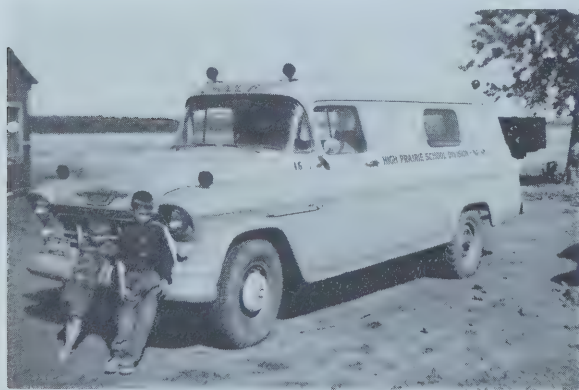
The first year Dad stayed in his brother Bill's log house that was vacant. Uncle Bill had bought a quarter of land that had a house and a well with a good supply of water. The house where Dad stayed had no water supply so he had to haul water in barrels and melt snow in the winter time.

I arrived in the Peace River Country on November 11, 1946 by train from Cessford. My Uncle Eddie, Dad's older brother, came with me. We arrived in Falher at about four thirty in the morning and walked over to the Adanac Hotel. Everything was closed in Falher due to Remembrance Day. Most people in Falher spoke French, which I didn't understand too well. The only

French I knew was what I had learned in high school and that wasn't my best subject. I had to control my urge to catch the next train back to the South Country. There was a dance in Falher so I caught a ride in a two-ton truck across the Smoky River to where Mom and Dad were. That was my first observation of a log house. It looked so sturdy and was quite warm as long as you fed the air tight heater with blocks of wood. I remember my older brother, Lawrence, came to visit us at Christmas from Calgary. He remarked the house sure was made from rough lumber. We laughed and told him it sure is rough alright, the only sawmill it had seen was an axe.

Soon after I arrived there I obtained a job with the High Prairie School Division teaching at Benoit School, located about 4 miles north of Guy; of course the main highway wasn't there then. There were only graded roads with gravel. Any substantial amount of rain and the roads would be next to impassable in the summer time. In the winter time, if there was a heavy snowfall, you could not travel except by horse and sleigh as there were no snowplows in use.

There were 33 pupils in that one room school, mostly French speaking, with some barely talking English or none at all. I used to get one of the older pupils to translate so the young ones could understand what I was talking about. It was a very cold winter with the thermometer dropping to 60 below F. at night and to 50 below F. in the daytime. It didn't stop the children from playing outside at recess and noon hour. I batched in the teacherage. There was a cook stove and a long flat heater that took logs two to three feet long. I stoked the heater full of logs before going to bed. I woke up one morning and the water pail was frozen solid so I guess the insulation wasn't too good. There was a Mr. Albertine from High Prairie School Division who would bring movies to the school once a week.



First school bus in Whitemud.

The subject matter would be somehow related to the children's subjects taken in school. We certainly enjoyed those evenings. I grew quite fond of the children and visited the parents.

My views changed of the Peace River Country and later that winter I filed on a homestead in Whitemud: NW 14-74-23- W5th and SW 23-74-23-W5th. These quarters bordered on Dad's land with Archie Gardner on the other side. On the west side was a green area (government property) and it still is.

In the spring, Dad and I broke eleven acres of land, worked it down, and seeded it to flax. There were very few roots on the land as a fire had gone through a few years before and burnt all the trees. The flax did very well, lots of rainfall and warm temperatures until the tenth of August. A hard frost wiped out the crop completely. It had frozen so hard, there were some tractor motor blocks and radiators that were cracked if they had contained water instead of antifreeze. Very few people used antifreeze in those days.

I didn't go back teaching that fall, I worked for Louis Besse stooking and threshing. Dad worked for a neighbor, Bill Gardner, threshing in the Whitemud area. The crops were poor quality due to the frost, but they were used to feed their livestock.

I left the Peace River Country in November of 1947 and found employment at the Dominion Experimental Station at Lethbridge, taking care of a sub station in the summer time and doing analysis work in the winter.

My sister, Lillian, left the North Country in 1950 and worked in Calgary. Allan left in 1951 and also found employment in Calgary. He worked for Burns Packers for a number of years.

I married Lillian Pontarolo in November, 1950. We then returned to Whitemud in August, 1951 to live on the homestead. The ferry was out of order so we had to cross the Little Smoky River in a boat, which leaked, so we had to bail water out with a can as we crossed the river. My wife wondered what she was getting into; 30 miles from town, poor roads or no roads at all, no power or running water. She had lived seven miles from Lethbridge near the town of Coalhurst, where there were paved roads, running water and electricity, also natural gas. This was a great change for her.

A small house was constructed in Mom and Dad's yard. We stayed there a couple of years as there was no road to the homestead. We brush cut a line and broke it and made a makeshift road. The following year we hooked two tractors to the small house and skidded it to the homestead

to about fifty feet from a small creek fed all year from springs. At least we had water.

My older brother, Lawrence, with his wife Lois, took a homestead in 1951 and moved up in 1953. They stayed at Mom and Dad's place, working on the land clearing and breaking, then built a house and moved to his farm in 1957. It joined Dad's farm in the west end.

Dad died of a heart attack February 9, 1957. He was in a grain truck, riding with his nephew when he passed away. Mother went to live with Lawrence in Calgary. He was a licensed mechanic and always worked in a garage in the winter to make enough money so he could improve the farm and survive through the summer.

My younger brother Allan tried his hand at farming with his wife Marion in 1958 on Dad's place. It was very dry that summer. As a result there was very little grain to harvest. He left in the fall and didn't try farming again.

I worked on drilling rigs every winter to make enough money to buy machinery and survive through the summers. Lil stayed on the farm and tended the cows and pigs in the earlier years. We didn't have any animals the last ten years. I stayed on the farm until it was sold in 1985 to Doug King and Louise Côté.

We had seven children: Deborah is an RN in Edson, Blaire and Wayne live in Calgary, Miles and Chris live in Edmonton, Denise lives in Grande Prairie and Teena just moved to Calgary from Valleyview and works for Peace Pipe Line. Mom lives in an apartment in a senior citizens lodge in Calgary at the present time. My brother Lawrence is selling his farm to Jim Creber. He still lives in Calgary and has a garage business in his back yard. Sister Lillian also lived in Calgary. Allan now lives about five miles southeast of Peace River on an acreage.

I still miss the farm and all the friends we made in Whitemud Creek.

COTE, RAY & PARENTEAU, IRENE

by Irene

Once married we settled on Wallace Cote's home quarter and helped him farm and raise a few cattle. In 1959 Ray purchased a gravel truck and went to work in Beaverlodge with his brother Russell.

The three oldest children went to school in Guy for three years and then continued in Falher where the younger children later went.

After Grandpa Côté died in 1966 we purchased more land and sold the cattle. Over the years Ray bought 15 quarters clearing about 650 acres. In 1981 the sons and son-in-law also purchased land and all farm together.



R.1 Darren, Edward. R.2 Richard, Laura, Gary. R.3 Claude Douglas, Irène, Ray, Norman, Patrick.

Besides farming Ray is on the Area Recreation Board which is in the process of building a ski hill on the banks of the Little Smoky river.

We often go for short holidays in the summer, golfing with friends and in the winter we take the family skiing when possible.

Ray Cote: n.22-12-1937 m.17-07-1957

Irene Parenteau: n.17-01-1938

CHILDREN:

1. Laura: n.13-05-1958 m.15-11-1975

Paul Doris: n.19-11-1957

a) Eric: n.29-02-1976

b) Neil: n.30-07-1978

c) Aaron: n.20-10-1982

d) Angela: n.20-10-1982

2. Douglas: n.03-06-1959

3. Patrick: n.25-09-1960 m.28-11-1981

Sheila Fraser: n.26-12-1961

a) Bradley: n.11-03-1982

They live in Grande Prairie.

4. Edward: n.20-04-1962

5. Norman: n.09-06-1963 m.06-07-1985

Doris Simard: n.22-08-1965

a) Brian: n.20-08-1986

They live on a farm in Whitemud.

6. Gary: n.13-03-1965

7. Claude: n.05-09-1966

8. Richard: n.13-08-1970

9. Darren: n.09-02-1974

COTE, RUSSELL & GOU EFFIC, BERNADETTE

by Bernadette

Russell was third in line in Wallace and Vernette Côté's family of six. He was born in Howie,



R.1 Euphémie & René Brin. R.2 Carmen & Carol, Roger. R.3 Maurice, Bernadette & Russell Côté.

now called Cessford. Then in 1934 he moved north with his parents and four sisters: Thelma, Doris, Marie, Gloria. Three years later Ray was born.

Russell stayed and worked on the farm with his Dad till 1953 when he married Bernadette Goueffic, who had been supervisor at Smith-reade School for three years. Russell and Bernadette made their home in Whitemud just next to Nairon's Store. In 1955 they had a son Maurice and in 1956 Roger was born. In 1961 the boys started going to Langlois School in Guy. In 1963 Carmen was born, but the last addition was Carol in 1965. In 1967 all the children went to school in Falher to complete their schooling. In 1968 Russell and family moved one mile north of their old place, after buying the farm from his father-in-law, Rene Brin.

Bernadette supervised, for several years, as well as doing some secretarial work for the Community and Church and School District. Russell was always there, with a helping hand. Russell is semi retired since 1981.

Russell Côté; n.15-06-1929 m.10-10-1953

Bernadette Goueffic; n.23-06-1932

CHILDREN:

1. Maurice; n.10-08-1955 m.04-08-1979

Elaine Bachand; n.16-11-1961

- a) Rena; n.24-12-1981
- b) Brandon; n.06-02-1984
- c) Megan; n.14-02-1986
- 2. Roger; n.19-10-1956
He is a bachelor and lives in Donnelly.
- 3. Carmen; n.19-03-1963 m.30-07-1983
Rene Timmermans.
a) Britney; n.16-12-1985
They live in Peace River, AB.
- 4. Carol; n.17-10-1965
a) Samantha. She lives in Grande Prairie, AB.

COTE, WALLACE & BESSE, VERNETTE

by Bernadette Côté

In 1898, Wallace was born in Beaverville, Illinois. He moved to Canada with his parents in about 1910, and settled in Langdon, Alberta. On October 20, 1926, he married Vernetta Besse at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Calgary. Vernetta was born in 1907 and raised in Langdon. They started in Howie (now called Cessford) and farmed till 1934. They had five children; Thelma, Doris, Russell, Marie and Gloria. Then they moved north because of continuous drought. The government promised to subsidize them by paying all transportation costs for all the family: furniture, equipment, cattle and horses. Since they had two quarters in Cessford, they were allowed to file for two quarters in the north. Wallace and his family, as well as brothers Leo, Bill and Eddie settled in Whitemud at the same time.



Vernetta & Wallace & 5 children: Thelma, Doris, Russell, Marie and Gloria. Photo taken in front of their home in the winter of 1934.

After arriving in Falher, they lived in the Immigration Hall for 2 months while Wallace and Edward Besse (a brother-in-law), herded cattle, built fences, and made logs to build their home. Their trip to Whitemud from Falher took two days with the horses and wagon. The first day they went as far as Joe Gagnon's which was about thirteen miles south of Falher. The hospitality was so great that it was like a home away

from home. They stayed overnight and completed the journey the next day. They had to ford the river, but then it was only about 60 feet wide, and not too deep.



Wallace's first tractor. It was now easier to go to town.

The following year we managed to open enough land to grow a garden and about ten acres for crop. They had loads of vegetables and Vernetta canned all she could. It was quite different from the south as one couldn't even grow a plant of lettuce at Cessford.

Travelling was very difficult as there were many trails going around the sloughs and muskegs.

In 1937 the first school was built. Most of the pioneers helped to build the school as quickly as possible as many of the children were long past school age. Then in December, Ray, the sixth child was born in McLennan Hospital.

Before the first church was built in 1942, Mass was held in different family homes once a month.



Crossing the Smoky, June 25th, 1935.

Father Parent was one of the first priests in the Whitemud district. He came from Falher on his motorcycle once a month to say mass. Father Richer was the first resident priest for St. Marcel's church. He resided a very short time while Father Campagna resided there from six to seven years.

Wallace Cote farmed four quarters of land till his death August, 1966. Vernetta, his wife, stayed on the farm after his death till June 23, 1983, when she was killed in a car accident.

Wallace's two sons are presently living in Whitemud. Ray farms and lives on his father's land, while Russell farms 1 mile north of the church.

Wallace Cote; n.03-02-1898 m.20-10-1926 d.08-1966

Vernetta Besse; n.08-09-1907 d.23-06-1983

CHILDREN:

1. Thelma; n.08-07-1927 m.24-11-1949
Arthur Rainville; n.30-04-1920. They live in Falher and have four children; Arthur Jr., Leanne, Adele, Paulette.
2. Doris; n.16-07-1928. Nun of the Order of Precious Blood. Presently in Nelson, B.C.
3. Russell; n.15-06-1929 m.20-10-1953
Bernadette Goueffie; n.23-06-1932
(See Cote, Russell, story)
4. Marie; n.04-06-1930 m.15-05-1954
Maurice Leroux. They live in Falher and have seven children; Bernard, Adele, Verna, Judy, Philip, Gwen and Harvey.
5. Gloria; n.07-11-1932 m.01-1956
Bill Van Duzze. They have four children and live in Brooks, Alberta.
6. Ray; n.22-12-1937 m.17-07-1957
Irene Parenteau; 17-01-1938
(See Cote, Ray)

COTE, WILLIAM (BILL) & BESSE, LEAH

by Amos Cote

William (Bill) Cote was born in Kankakee, Illinois in 1888. He, with his family, migrated to Alberta, Canada in 1907. They lived near Langdon, Alberta for a period of time. It is here that Bill met and married Leah Besse in 1912. Shortly after, he and several other families homesteaded in an area one hundred fifty miles east of Calgary, later called Howie. Money was needed to build a home and break the land so Bill and Leah were hired as cooks for a crew working on the Bassano Dam.

After several prosperous farming years, this part of the prairies was struck with a severe drought lasting more than ten years. In 1934, with government assistance, Bill's family along with some fifty-one other families decided to



Mr. & Mrs. William (Bill) Cote.

move to Northern Alberta. At that time the only block of good land available to accommodate that many people was an area west of the Guy district across the Little Smoky River. Eventually, this settlement was named Whitemud Creek.

Bill and Leah with their family of seven children settled and homesteaded these quarters: SE 09-75-22-05, SW 10-75-22-05 and SW 15-75-22-05. Moving in the middle of a depression, those first years for Bill and other prairie farmers proved to be quite a challenge. Building log houses and cutting down trees were new and strenuous experiences. Both men and horses were nearly driven mad by black flies and mosquitoes. However, with the help of his three strong boys, Tony, Amos and Bert, a log house was erected and completed on time to move in for the long cold winter of 1935.

In spite of the rough times, there were many happy occasions. There were family gatherings almost every week at one place or another. Bill supplied the music with his mouth organ and guitar. When the party ended, usually at daylight, his mouth organ was ruined, so someone would pass a hat to collect fifty cents to buy a new one for the next time. The summer highlights were the Sunday ball games. Young and old would meet for the East against the West competition. The older folks traveled with a team and wagon, the younger on horse back.

Everyone participated. The entire community cooperated in organizing the annual picnic. With the ladies supplying the food and refreshments, this event was always looked forward to and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

A post office was eventually approved and established in the home of Mr. George Reade who was appointed postmaster in 1935. Richard (Dick) Reade was the mailman. Once a week, when the river wasn't too high to cross, he would travel to Ballater in his two wheel Red River cart to get the mail. It was a long day's drive but the job paid eight dollars a week. In the thirties, this bought a good supply of groceries. Along with the mail, Dick would also bring small grocery items from the Ballater store for people who were short of supplies.

In 1936, Bill Cote and some neighbors formed a committee to look into the building of a school. They contacted the Department of Education and were informed the Government would approve a one hundred fifty dollar grant to help with the building expenses and would hire and pay for a teacher. It was decided to build a log frame and use the grant money to purchase windows and lumber. Volunteers hauled the logs over the winter and completed the framing the following spring. Bill's oldest son Tony, built the desks that winter.

A young city teacher was hired for the fall term. Crossing the river in a lumber wagon proved to be a terrifying experience. The isolation and lack of conveniences was too much to take for a first year city teacher. During the Christmas break she went home to mother and didn't return. Our second young teacher completed her term but pioneering was not one of her life's ambitions so she didn't come back.

With the forties came the beginning of a new era. The economy improved, roads were built. A cottage was constructed and our first district nurse, Miss Nordtorp, moved in with medical supplies. Another milestone, was the opening of a grocery store by Mr. and Mrs. Mederic Nairon. Shortly, thereafter the first church was built where mass was celebrated once a month. With the improved road conditions a few motor vehicles were introduced to the area. They came in very handy to haul the surplus grain and cattle to Falher. It was not uncommon to see three or four families getting a ride to go to town on one of these trucks. However, this improved transportation wasn't without its drawbacks. These roads weren't gravelled and wet summer weather made them hazardous. The heavy winter snowfall and our northern blizzards meant getting



R.1 Theresa, Agnes, Leah Côté, Antonia. R.2 Lucille, Josephine. R.3 Amos Côté, Norman Reade, Omer Aubin, Tony Côté, Jos Vincelette.

stuck and almost shovelling your way home as there were no snow plows at that time.

The government had promised a ferry crossing within two years. Needless to say this wasn't realized for eleven years. The ferry was launched in 1945, a very welcomed event for all. With the new ferry crossing and the end of the war, many new faces appeared on the scene. An influx of newcomers arrived to make it a rapidly growing community. The old log school was replaced and a teacherage was added. Mrs. Weibe, Mrs Balhm, Lucille Cote, Mrs. Dufresne are a few of the teachers who taught at this school. The late forties saw a big change in farming style in the area. Brush cutters and pilers revolutionized the industry. Many acres were cleared and plowed with the coming of this equipment.

It would be appropriate to refer to the fifties as the "thriving fifties". Bill's dreams, as many others, were finally being realized. The farms expanded, the grain prices increased and the price of legume seed escalated to a record high. They were now in a position to buy modern machines. Trucks and cars were a first for so many. Bill bought his first new Plymouth car in 1951, a commodity he enjoyed until his death in 1954.

He would have been overwhelmed by the progress which continued in the area. Before the end of the decade, Guy REA brought electricity to the region. The telephones were installed. Our world became a much brighter place.

The sixties saw the ferry being replaced by the Blue Bridge in 1963. A new road via Girouxville was built and later paved.

A new road leading west from Whitemud to join the Debolt community was constructed in



A reception at Bill Cote.



Bert Cote.

the seventies. This is noticeably a much shorter route to Grande Prairie.

In closing, it is my fervent wish that the present and future generations will appreciate the hardships and sacrifices these pioneers endured in order to leave them this great land as their heritage. Hopefully, they will have the same courage through the bad and good years to preserve it as their forefathers.

William Cote: n. 1888 m.16-01-1912 d. 1954

Leah Besse: n. 1883 d. 1973

CHILDREN:

1- Josephine: n. 13-06-1913 m. 06-1935 d. 12-05-1973

Joseph Vincelette: (see Vincelette, Joseph story)

2- Blanche: n. 05-11-1914 m.

Ernie O'Dian

They have six children: Ron, Sharon, Shirley, Gordon, Dennis, Gail and Ken.

3- Tony: n. 04-11-1916 m.

Antonia Zerenbergen

They have two children: Colleen and Darlene.

4- Amos: n. 27-03-1918 m. 06-04-1953

Lucille Aubin (see Aubin, Arthur story)

- 5- Bert: n. 23-11-1919 d. 1942 in an airplane crash.
- 6- Agnes: n. 05-09-1921 m. 24-07-1944 d. 07-11-1973
Omer Aubin (see Aubin, Arthur story)
- 7- Theresa: n. 21-08-1924 m.
Donald Reade (see Reade, Donald story)

DECHAMBRE, LOUIS & MORIN, MARIE ANGE

Taken from Madeleine Welter's writings

Third of four children, Louis was born in Herdigny, Province of Luxembourg in Belgium. His father, Honore, was a stone mason and his mother was Ida Chevigny.

The family sailed from Anvers, (Antwerp) on July 31, 1912, arriving in Quebec City August 12, 1912. After a few days they travelled west by train to Edmonton. After waiting there three weeks for their baggage, they left Edmonton by train to Athabasca and made the remainder of the trip to Grouard by boat, arriving in September, 1912. They spent the first winter in Grouard, then moved to a homestead four and half miles north-east of Falher.



Marguerite Audet in doorway of house built by Louis Dechambre.

May 20, 1921, Louis walked to Peace River town to file on a homestead a couple of miles southwest of Magloire Lake. He built a log shack and opened up the land without the benefit of machinery.

November 12, 1928 he married Marie-Ange Morin, daughter of Joseph and Odile Breton. In 1929 Louis sold his homestead and took another one south of the Little Smoky River. He built a large two storey house and planted a large garden on the flat of fertile land right by the river. It produced bountiful crops that he shared with the other settlers. Most of his children were born

there. In 1968 Louis and his wife retired to McLennan.

Louis Dechambre: n.24-10-1903 m.12-11-1928
Marie-Ange Morin: n.28-02-1907

CHILDREN:

1. Joseph: n.23-02-1930 m. Grace and they have one daughter.
2. Philippe: n.03-06-1931 m. Margaret Watt and they have four children.
3. Annette: n.07-10-1932 m. Tony Rotaliuk. They have eleven children.
4. Lucille: n.24-11-1933 m. Howard Chase. They have two children one of whom is adopted.
5. Therese: n.12-11-1935 m. John Schulenburg. They have four children.
6. Paul: n.21-12-1936 m. Jenny Napier and they have five children.
7. Charles: n.10-07-1941 m. Juliette Drouin, had one child, deceased.
8. Jeannette: n.25-07-1943 m. John Griko. They have two children.
9. Henri: n.20-03-1951, deceased at 17 years of age.

DEVINE, LLOYD & MARY

by Lloyd

We came from Didsbury, AB, on July 5, 1964, settling on the W 1/2-7-75-23-W5.

We stayed on the farm for a very short time, moving thereafter to Peace River. I found a job with the town of Peace River and did my farm work from there hiring neighbors and contractors to do the clearing and breaking. I worked weekends burning piles and picking roots.

My recollections of that first summer on the farm are of hordes of mosquitoes, bad roads, an abundance of rain and good crops of wild strawberries and raspberries. Our closest neighbors were Alex and Claire Forgie, Don and Doreen Cote, Louis Cote, Lawrence Weisel and the Herb Doris Family.

I have great admiration and respect for the settlers of the Whitemud Creek district. I have found them to be hard working, capable, honest, and very kind people.

Mary and I are retired and live in Summerland, B.C.

Lloyd: n.15-10-1927

Mary: n.22-08-1931

CHILDREN:

1. Mary Louella: n.08-03-1954
John Gillat
Mary Louella teaches in Calgary, AB.
2. Heather: n.15-10-1955
John Mullan

sur papier isore pour :

a) c. e d'indigence constatée
le 23 juillet 1912
par certificat de M. le Bour-
meire de Noville

b) servir de renseignement à

PROVINCE
de
Luxembourg

COMMUNE
de
Noville

Extrait d'Acte de Naissance

Des registres de l'État Civil de cette commune a été extrait
ce qui suit :

L'an mil neuf cent dix
le vingt-quatre du mois d'octobre
est né à Bardigny, Commune de Noville
Marie Louis Deschambre, fils de
Honoré Joseph, et de Marie José
Johna Léa Chezeau, son épouse

POUR EXTRAIT CONFORME :

Délivré le 23 juillet 1912
L'Officier de l'État Civil

No 534. — Imprimerie Administrative des Communes, BALSACQ-ELMANT, à Luttre.

NOTA. — Les extraits des registres de l'état civil destinés à servir à l'extérieur du royaume ne sont plus soumis à la formalité de la légalisation (Loi du 2 juin 1894 modifiant l'article 45 du Code civil).

Document: Extrait de baptême de Louis Deschambre.

Heather is an Education Officer in U. of A., Edmonton.

3. Lori Lynne: n.04-05-1962

She graduated from U. of A. and is working in Edmonton.

DORIS, ALBERT EDWARD SR. & KEOGH, ROSELLA

by Dolores & Herbert

Albert Edward Doris (Sr.) was born in Peterborough, Ontario, May 17, 1882, the second youngest son in a family of ten of Bernard Doris. Bernard came west to Calgary in 1909 after his first wife died, in search of work and adventure. That city wasn't what he had in mind so in 1910 he moved to Edmonton where he met Rosella Marie Keogh, one of five daughters of Ellen and Joseph Keogh from Devil's Lake, North Dakota. They married on July 3, 1911 and had seven children.

Having been raised on a farm himself, Albert could see a future in the Peace River region and so in 1919 he filed on NE¼-33-74-23-5, now farmed by Herbert's youngest son Edward, but previously owned by George Henderson, a dealer in purebred Clydesdales. Like most settlers he



The Doris Sawmill. Albert, Edward Sr. Herbert Doris, Edward Cloutier, Herbert Dau, Bernard Doris, Rosella Doris, Grandma, Herbert's two sons, Richard & Henry.

found bush and luscious hay covering prime land.

As a homesteader he would come from Edmonton at the start of July till late September for residence duties, brushing by hand and building a comfortable log shack. He also blazed



Albert & William Doris Brothers.

many trails. However, while in Edmonton, harness making was his trade.

In 1934 he thought the time was right to introduce his family to the farm. Times were hard but with determination and long hours of hard work they pulled through the depression. They raised chickens, turkeys, pigs, cows, and horses and the garden grew in abundance.

Because going to and from school posed some problems, mother and children would go back to the city and return to the farm for the holidays, berry picking and canning, but Albert would stay on the farm to care for the animals and make firewood. He took pride in raising Landrace pigs till the age of 75. Albert lived to the ripe old age of 93, enjoying good health throughout. He passed away November 22, 1975 while his wife Rosella succumbed to cancer in February 1968 at 75 years. Herbert carried on the farming, gradually acquiring more land and machinery and is now semi-retired but working with his two younger sons who chose to follow in his footsteps.

Albert Edward Doris; b.17-05-1882 m.03-07-1911 d.27-11-1975
Marie Keogh; d.02-1968.

CHILDREN:

1. Frederick; b.16-05-1912
m. 1949 d. 29-12-1981
Florence Hammond; b.20-10-1926. Florence had one child, Joe. Frederick and Florence's children:
 - a) Herbert; b.02-11-1950.
 - b) David; b.08-10-1952.
 - c) Florence; b.09-12-1954.
2. Thelma; b.11-06-1915 d.10-12-1917.
3. Evelyn; b.12-05-1917 m.09-08-1943.
Ted Thornton; b.06-06-1918.
 - a) Terrance; b.1951.
 - b) Peggy; b.1953 m.
Peter Sapwell. They have two sons.
 - c) Roy; b.1956. m. .
Diane. They have two children.
 - d) Bruce; b. m.
Gwen.
4. Herbert; b.06-07-1918 m.20-12-1945
Dolores Dubois; b.15-04-1929.(See Doris, Herbert Story)
5. Bernard; b.10-04-1920 m.14-02-1943.
Ann Cloutier; b.14-03-1923 d.09-12-1983.
 - a) Patrick; Died as an infant.
 - b) Patrick Paul; b.17-03-1946.
 - c) Stanley; b.05-11-1949.
 - d) Anne; b.04-01-1955.
6. Irene; b.27-09-1923 m.05-06-1952.
Ed Toohey; live in Millet, Alberta.

- a) Michael; married to Katrina Kovacs, and they have three sons.
- b) Maureen; married to Ronald Lazell, and they have two daughters.
- c) Tom; married to Sherri Lepetsly, and they have one son.
- d) Francis; Lives in Edmonton.
- e) Daniel; Lives in Two Hills, Alberta.
- f) William; Lives in Elk Point, Alberta.
- g) Mathew; Completing grade 12.
7. Eleanor; b.06-11-1925 m.22-11-1947.
Irvin Carson; b.21-06-1925.
 - a) Dianne; b.23-08-1948.
 - b) Irene; b.06-06-1952.
 - c) Susan; b.06-03-1954.
 - d) Karen; b.09-11-1955.
 - e) Allan; b.29-08-1962.
 - f) Albert; b.05-02-1964.

DORIS, HERBERT & DUBOIS, DOLORES

by Herbert

Of the three sons of Albert Edward Doris, Herbert and Bernard stayed with the farm while Frederick moved on, eventually settling in Whitehorse, Yukon, where he obtained a welder's degree and worked mostly for oil pipelines until



Bernard, Albert Edward, Herbert Doris in 1942.

his retirement at age 65, passing away in December 1979.

Herbert and Bernard came north from Edmonton with their father in 1934, and worked with axes and horses. In 1939, their first tractor was bought, a Massey Harris twin power; then followed more machinery and more land. Bernard married Marie-Anne Cloutier of Ballater in

1943 and moved to that area in 1945. Then in 1948 they moved back to Whitemud Creek, purchasing the E½ 34-74-23-5. Together with Herb, they operated a sawmill for several winters. In 1952 he began showing signs of multiple sclerosis and by 1972 was admitted to the Peace River auxiliary hospital, where he still is and enjoys company. His land was sold to Herb's son, Jim.

During the years of the horses, it would take three days round-trip to haul a load of grain to the elevator and this was done mostly in winter



R.1 Dolores, Mr. & Mrs. Elzear Dubois, Herbert. R.2 Richard, Henry, James, Edward & Louise.

after the Smoky River froze over. One had to purchase a large supply of groceries, etc. before spring break-up, because the only way to cross then and in late fall was by a basket hanging from a cable stretched from both sides of the river. Otherwise there was a ferry. In 1941, Herbert purchased a one ton International and loaded the grain by hand, thus making one trip a day. As the years went by, the roads improved from the muskeg and mosquito trails. Then in 1948, he bought a three ton Ford and was able to take two loads a day, quite often three and hauled also for the neighbours. One fine spring day as he was crossing the river with a load of wheat, he came upon a soft spot and broke through the ice. Needless to say, he lost most of his load. While grain farming became his best revenue, he also raised cattle and hogs for market. He married Dolores Dubois of Jean-Cote in December 1949, and raised one daughter and four sons. They are now semi-retired on the farm.

Herbert James: n.06-07-1918
m.20-12-1949

Dolores Carmen Dubois: n.15-04-1929 in Montreal.

Dolores came to Alberta April 30, 1930.

CHILDREN:

1. Suzanne: n.29-10-1950 in Edmonton, m. 15-11-1974

David Petryshen: n.03-09-1946
d.10-09-1977 from an accident

a) Bryan: n.23-01-1976

2m widowed Melvin Nyal: n.02-01-1946
m.01-07-1980 in Westlock, AB.

Melvin had three children: Richard, Robert, Paul Wayne.

Louise and Melvin had one child, Barry, n.23-05-1983.

2. Richard: n.14-05-1952
m.30-08-1975 in Calgary.

Brenda Arndt: n.18-01-1956

a) Amy Kathleen: n.22-06-1979

b) Jeffrey: n.22-06-1979

3. Henry: n.15-06-1954
m.22-12-1973

Irene Landry: n.05-12-1955

a) Jason: n.21-12-1974

Divorced 1977

2m Shelly Millighan: n.14-08-1958
m.02-04-1983

b) Nathan: n.26-10-1984

4. James: n.10-01-1956
m.29-11-1983

Jean Zajak: n.09-09-1963

5. Edward: n.09-10-1957
m.15-12-1979

Marie Rose Nadeau: n.29-08-1964

a) Tina: n.07-06-1979

b) Curtis: n.07-10-1981

DORIS, WILLIAM & ARMSTRONG, ISABELLA AGNES

DORIS, BERT & MENCKE, ANDREE

by Alice A. Doris

As far as I can determine, our grandfather William Doris would have to take a lot of the credit for the Doris families in the Peace River country. Born in Hastings, Ontario, on September 23, 1871, he had moved west in the early 1900's and found employment in the sawmills around Cranbrook, B.C. In April of 1915, he married Isabella Agnes Armstrong – born April 8, 1896 in Newcastle, England – and began farming on rented land at Endiang, Alberta. In 1928, after the land had been sold, the family was forced to look for alternative living arrangements. Since 76% of Alberta's net worth in 1925 was derived from agriculture, it's understandable that Granddad chose to continue farming. He had heard that the Peace River country had the right type of soil to harvest the new gold of the 20's. Canadian wheat was the new hope for the prairies.

In 1929 Granddad paid the Northern Alberta Railway \$125.00 for a passenger ticket and the rental of a box car to transport his settler's effects north to the Peace River country. It's reasonably safe to assume that he must have invested most of his life savings into this northern expedition since the per capita income at the time was only \$548.00. With this in mind even the conductor must have known that in amongst Granddad's settler's effects were two mighty scared young boys for that seven day trip from Endiang. They would have been referred to as stowaways by the railway company but one of them would become known to many folks in the area as Albert or "Bert" Doris.

Dad was only ten when that train stopped in Falher and his brother Barney was eleven. From there they would travel by horse and wagon to the quarter section of land that Granddad had filed on. There would be no school, no other young children; in fact, other than a lot of bush and mosquitoes there wouldn't be a heck of a lot of anything. Granddad and the boys were able to put together a one room shack in time for Grandma and Dad's three sisters – Margaret, Helen and Katie – to arrive five months later. It was far from the best conditions but little did

they know, things would get a lot worse before they got better. No one was prepared for the 1929 Wall Street collapse, least of all prairie farmers, which set the stage for the Great Depression. By 1933 the pecapita income for Albertan's fell to \$212.00. Export prices for farm products fell a full 70%. The daily diet for many families, including Granddad's, consisted mainly of moose meat and turnips; but, in spite of these harsh economic times our forefathers looked to the future with optimism and continued to clear the land. They must have possessed determination that future generations would neither understand or be able to compete with.

Like many young men in the thirties, the desperate conditions forced Dad off the family farm at the age of fourteen in search of employment. He worked for various farmers in northern regions of the province either stooking or working on threshing crews. Twelve to fourteen hour days would pay \$1.00 a day plus your room and board which was sometimes questionable. When he finished in one place he would move on to the next. In 1936 Dad applied for his own homestead (NE 26-74-23-W5) three and a half miles east of Granddad's. Over the next several years whenever Dad wasn't working for someone else he would spend time clearing his own land. Using an axe was never the quickest method of completing this thankless task so Dad and his cousin worked out an agreement that suited both of their needs. Herb had been clearing right-of-ways for the government and other farmers in the area so in return for operating equipment Dad was able to get the use of the Cat when it wasn't hired out.



William Doris.



Bert & Andrée (1943).



Twins & triplets: Mary-Lou, Mark, Robert, Mike, Margaret Doris.

In contrast to the meager but peaceful lifestyle developing on the prairies was the reality of Canadian involvement overseas in World War II. Canada's response to the war effort was compulsory military service and in 1940 Dad reported for and completed his basic training in Grande Prairie. However, he was later advised that due to a childhood hand injury he would not be required to report for further training.

Dad married Mom at Guy on March 5, 1943. His bride Andree Mencke and her family had immigrated to Canada from Belgium in 1931. Hard times had also forced Mom in search of employment and this is how she met Dad. They were both working for Joe Gagnon in the Ballater area. Soon after they married, Mom was able to file on her own quarter (NW 26-74- 23-W5) that was adjoining Dad's and received title to welcome his first son who would be born on the farm in 1944.

In 1943 a tragic shooting accident claimed the life of Dad's youngest sister, Ann, born on Granddad's farm in 1940. Ann was laid to rest in the Whitemud Creek Cemetery on October 27, 1943. She was two and half years old. Her burial seems to have started a family tradition as within three years she was joined by Granddad who at the age of 75 died peacefully in his sleep on December 1, 1946. His wife Isabella Agnes stayed on the land for the next three years but difficult times on the farm forced her to seek alternate means of making a living. Grandma and her daughter Katie moved to Calgary and would return to the area occasionally to visit. After a lengthy fight with diabetes Isabella Agnes Doris died at the Calgary Foothills Hospital on September 25, 1971. At the request of the family she was buried alongside her daughter, Ann, and her husband William, in the Whitemud Creek Cemetery.

Twelve other children were born to Dad and Mom, two of us born on the farm. Although there



R.1 Margaret, Robert, Mary-Lou. R.2 Mark, Andrée, Bert, Mike. R.3 Jack, Tom, Alice, Lorette, Jocelyne, Linda, Harold, Paul.

was a small addition on the house we all managed to live together for a period of time. In 1960 Mom claimed title to having the New Year's Babies at the Sacred Heart Hospital in McLennan. Quite a status to achieve even for a single birth but can you imagine triplets! All those diapers must have been the reason to get the power in. Sixteen months later Mom and Dad broke the cheaper by the dozen theory and brought home bouncing twin boys. No wonder dad started looking for more land.

In 1966 the family left the homestead and moved to a half section (N ½ 18-75-22-W5) that dad had purchased three miles north of the homestead. Even though there would be much more room there was a certain sadness among us all as we left the house that Dad built in 1944. After farming in Whitemud area for over 40 years, Mom and Dad sold the land in 1976 and moved to Falher where Mom finally got her running water. Like many men who accepted the challenge of farming when Dad did, times never seemed to get easier and this only served to discourage the older boys from carrying on the occupation. Although most of us continue to reside in the Peace River country only two of the immediate family still farm in Whitemud. Fortunately this enables the rest of us to renew our acquaintance with the past and rekindle old memories with family and friends we grew up with. The wide open spaces and clean air is no comparison to the surroundings we may have had if Granddad had not had the determination and foresight to head west nearly 90 years ago. For this we must be forever thankful.

Dad has never quite been able to keep the dirt

from under his fingernails. Even though he moved to Falher in '76 his heart seems to have remained on the farm. The land that originally brought granddad to the Peace River country had remained Doris property since 1929. SE 33-74-23-W5 is presently owned by Dad's cousin Herb and is farmed yearly by someone very familiar with the land. Most every spring and fall you can bet that "Bert" is waiting patiently by the phone for a call to return to the soil in Whitemud.

Children of William and Isabella Doris:

1. Barney: n.23-11-1916
2. Albert: n.11-05-1918
3. Margaret: n.11-01-1920
4. Helen: n.01-01-1923
5. Katie: n.02-05-1931
6. Ann: n.17-10-1940
d.08-10-1943

Children of Bert and Andree Doris:

1. Harold: n. 01-03-1944
m.27-03-1986
Cecile Cloutier Duchesne
They have three children: Michelle Doris,
Darlene Duchesne and Carmen Duchesne
2. Jack: n.26-07-1945
m.19-04-1968
Rita Drouin
They have two children: Shirley and Debbie
3. Lorrette: n.31-03-1947
m.28-01-1967
Marcel Boily
They have four children: Gina, Vicki, Dennis
and Jason
4. Thomas: n.26-09-1948
m.24-07-1968
Pat Morreau
They have three children: Chrissy, Shayne
and Wade.
5. Linda: n.05-11-1950
m.20-11-1970
Roy Virtue
They have two children: Jo-Anne and
Suzanne
6. Alice: n.14-06-1952
m.05-12-1970
a) Ashley
7. Jocelyn: n.13-07-1954
m.23-01-1971
Lyle Tonne
They have four children: Tracey, Carrie, Jeni-
fer and Kimberley.
8. Paul: n.19-11-1956
m.15-11-1975
Laura Coté:
They have four children: Angela, Eric, Neil
and Aaron

Seven Year Plan



*We've been building a house now for seven years,
With "blood and sweat and toil and tears."
For we made our start in '37;
We had no crop, but we lived in heaven.
A young and hopeful bride and groom,
When we moved in there was only one room.*

*We finished the kitchen the second year
(Sure made the rest of the house look queer)
High prices we thought were bound to come
But instead of a bedroom, we got a son!
Money is scarce on a dry dirt farm,
And some of it went to build a barn
The fears slipped by in a gray mad whirl,
And instead of a bathroom - a baby girl!*

*Oh well! If we'd gone our way alone
We'd have had a house, but not a home.
For a sturdy lad and a sweetie lass
Are a better investment than any cash.
And we'll finish our house come toil or tears -
If it takes us another seven years!*



9. Robert: n.04-01-1960
m.31-12-1982
Shelly Albert
They have two children: Adam and Richard.
10. Mary Louise: n.04-01-1960
m.01-09-1979
Merle Wood
a) Amanda
11. Margaret: n.04-01-1960
m.24-08-1986
Dave Griffith
12. Mark: n.06-07-1961
m.05-05-1984
Carmen Aubin
They have two children: Jonie and Jason.
13. Micheal: n.06-07-1961

DROUIN, GERARD (1m) & FORSEILLE, AUGUSTINE DALLAIRE, ISIDORE (2m)

by Augustine

I first came to know the Guy community in the year 1960. I was working in Edmonton at the time but got to know the Drouin's, Cloutier's and Dechief's through one of my brothers. I left my job in Edmonton in the spring of 1961 and on October 9, 1961 I married Gerard (Jerry) Drouin at Nampa. We (the Forseille's) had moved there in 1949. Jerry and I spent the winter of '61-'62 in

Hinton then returned to my father-in-law's, Harvey Drouin's where we built our "shack" a 12x20 building. The same fall, Roland Clouter moved it with his tractor to our homestead in Whitemud, the E ½ -20 75 W5. We had to cross on the ferry; then we were on "cow trails". There was very little land opened up around us then. I remember one time Jerry borrowed a tractor and cutter from Amedee Fortier; he was going to cut some trees down. Well, he went the length of the machine in the bush and that was it; he was stuck! When I saw him cutting the bush with an axe to be able to get out I couldn't help but burst out laughing. I guess it was adding insult to injury but he was soon laughing too.



Augustine & Gérard Drouin.

Our first visitors in Whitemud were two big bears who no doubt felt we were trespassing, as they were used to having the run of the country. By the time we found the shells for the rifle they were long gone. All year long we would see wild game of every kind. In the fall of '63 we moved to the north quarter of our land so we could be out of the wind. That is the year the secondary highways 644 was built. What an improvement! In no time at all, people were taking up land and

opening it. Raoul Audet had the land across the road from us but didn't move there until a few years later. Our closest neighbors were the Jacks-sons and Palmers. During the winter of '63-'64 Jerry was cutting logs at Herb Doris's sawmill where he fell ill and passed away the next day, April 2. He would have been twenty-four years old on April 4. I spent most of that spring and summer with my sisters in Round Hill and Cold Lake, AB. I came back to live with my dad and brother Lawrence, south of Guy, in early fall. My son Jerry was born in the McLennan hospital on October 11, 1964. For the next five years we would spend the winter with dad and go "home" in the spring. Once Jerry started school he travelled by bus to Falher, AB., so we stayed at our place.

On December 26, 1974 I married Isidore Dal-laïre. He came from St. Sixte, Quebec in 1960. He stayed with his cousins Henry and Honora Begin in Girouxville for a few years while making improvements on his homestead in the summer and working out during the winter. In the spring of 1973 he had to be operated for the removal of a blood clot on the brain. Since then he has been unable to work out but manages quite well on the farm. We reside on the site of his original home-stead, SE¼ -4-76-22-W5.

DUMONT, CHARLES & COUTURE, ANTONIA ELISA DUMONT, HENRY & DUBOIS, JEANNINE

by Henry and Jeannine Dumont

Mrs. Antonia Dumont was born and baptized under the name of Antonia Elisa Couture, April 13, 1888. She was born in St. Hilaire, Dorset, Québec. Her father was George Couture and her mother was Belzémire Guay.

Charles Dumont was born on February 12, 1882.

Charles and Antonia were married May 8, 1906, and they lived the first few years of their marriage in Lac Mégantic, Comté de Frontenac, Québec. Born to them were Lucia (1907), Joseph (1909), Milet (1911), Marie Alice (1912), Anna (1913), Irene Yvonne (1915), Florent (1918) and Henry (1920).

As the soil was too poor to farm and other work was rare, they made a difficult journey to a better land. They settled in Lac Pelletier, Saskat-chewan in 1923.

There they homesteaded. In Lac Pelletier three more children were born: Juliette (1924-passed away at 18 months 1925), John (1926) and Louis (1927).

After years of hard work, the drought hit



Crossing the river. Charles, Floyd with pony, Milet Dumont & Albert Morissette.



Charles Dumont, Irene, Lucia, Anna, Floyd.

Saskatchewan. It became harder to survive so they set out again further west.

Charles, Antonia and their children, Milet, Irene, Florent, Henry, John and Louis set out for Lloydminster on a wagon train which consisted of three wagons, seven horses, one pony and one dog. Charles then rented a railroad boxcar and loaded their belongings and set out for Falher. They arrived at their destination in June of 1930.

Charles filed on a lease in Whitemud Creek and settled in late fall. The homestead of Charles was located SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -32-74-22-W5 and Antonia's SE-32-74-22-W5.

Charles and Antonia once again began to break land to grow grain. They acquired a few chickens and farm animals and became self-sufficient once again.



R.1 Maria Anna, Floyd, Alyre (Joe), Lucia, Irène, Milet. R.2 Antonia & Charles. Taken in 1920.

In June of 1933, there was another addition to the family. Antonia gave birth to Roméo at home in their little log shack.

In order to get provisions from Falher, they crossed the river by any means possible until 1946. The government then built a ferry for river crossings. This was great for the summer but this was only seasonal.

In 1963, the government built a bridge known as Blue Bridge south of Girouxville. The ferry was abandoned a few years later.

In 1940, Florent left home and joined the army. He served five years in the army during W.W.II. He came back to Whitemud Creek in 1946 and homesteaded N $\frac{1}{2}$ -05-75-22-W5 near the family.

In the late '30's, as Charles and his boys were going to their homestead, they stopped not far from home. Charles got out of the wagon, made a wooden cross and stood it up. He told his boys that this was the place where a church would be built if ever there was one built.

Many years later, the community built a church and it was exactly where Charles had set the cross. The old church in Whitemud Creek still stands today.

On November 10, 1940, Charles, passed away in Edmonton of pleurisy. He was laid to rest in St. Joachim Cemetery in Edmonton.

As their older children were married and settled on their own land, Henry was the oldest boy left at home. With the experience he had gained from his father, Henry helped his mother farm and raise the children still at home. Henry later acquired his own homestead N $\frac{1}{2}$ -04-75-22-W5.

In 1952, Henry built a new house for his mother and brothers.



Henry Dumont in front of his woodpile.



The gang at the homestead in 1930. Milet Dumont, Albert Morissette, Mr. Lachapelle, Floyd Dumont.



Henry Dumont's threshing crew in 1950. Romeo Dumont, Clement Nairon, Henry Dumont, Rosaire Nairon, Louis Dumont.

December 19, 1953, Henry married Jeannine Dubois in the Catholic Church in Jean Côté, Alberta.

Three children were born to them, Raymond (1954), Charles (1956) and Leo (1957). Shortly after, Antonia moved with her son, John, who had at this time obtained his own land. Louis was married and had his own home in 1952.

Romeo, the youngest child, had also acquired a home and moved there. In 1958, Antonia went to reside with Romeo.

Another three children were born to Henry and Jeannine: Linda (1959), Irene (1961) and Michael (1962).

Over the years, they raised cattle, other livestock and farmed. Henry acquired more land, (SE $\frac{1}{4}$ -10-75-22-W5 and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ -03-75-22-W5).

Henry had also worked on sawmills and done some logging and fished for a living on the Great Slave Lake.

In 1965, Antonia took a well-deserved rest and resided in Pleasant View Lodge in High Prairie, then in Legal and then in Our Lady of the Lake Nursing Home in McLennan. She died January 17, 1980, at the age of 91. Henry and Jeannine sold some of their land in 1979 and moved to Falher. They now reside in Falher and are semi-retired.



R.1 Linda, Dad Henry, Mom Jeannine, Irene. R.2 Raymond, Michael, Charles, Léo-Paul.

Charles Dumont: n.12-02-1882 m.08-05-1906 d.10-11-1940

Antonia Couture: n.13-04-1888 d.17-01-1980

CHILDREN:

1. Lucia: n.15-08-1907
2. Joseph Alyre: n.23-05-1909 d.02-06-1973

3. Milet: n.12-02-1911 (See Dumont, Milet)
4. Marie Alice: n.27-04-1912
5. Anna: n.27-10-1913
6. Irene Yvonne: n.04-11-1915
7. Florent: n.01-02-1918 m.12-11-1949
Helen Halabowich: n.17-02-1930
 - a) Emil Joseph: n.26-05-1951
 - b) David Michael: n.14-09-1954
8. Henry Joseph: n.29-10-1920 m.29-12-1953
Jeannine M. L. Dubois: n.27-07-1934
 - a) Raymond: n.17-12-1954 m.08-05-1976
Rollande Morin: n.08-12-1957
Four children: Luc, Lise, Ronnie and Curtus. They reside in Falher, AB.
 - b) Charles: n.21-03-1956 m.01-07-1982
Jeannette Fontaine Mortenson: n.06-06-1950
Two children: Wade Dustin Mortenson and Todd Lane Mortenson. They reside in Falher, AB.
 - c) Leo Paul: n.04-10-1957 m.29-12-1986
Cheryl Meadows: n.03-11-1960
Two children: Maylynn and Brian. They reside in Grande Prairie, AB.
 - d) Linda Marie: n.02-05-1959
Resides in Weyburn, Saskatchewan.
 - e) Irene Marie: n.18-04-1961 m.24-05-1980
Eugene Stanley Foster: n.31-01-1957
Three children: Shannon, Clayton and Stephanie. They reside in Falher, AB.
 - f) Michael Joseph: n.13-07-1962
9. Juliette: n.22-07-1924 d.1925
10. John Lucien: n.19-04-1926 (See Dumont, John)
11. Louis: n.02-09-1927
12. Romeo: n.09-06-1933 (See Dumont, Romeo)

DUMONT, JOHN & REID, LORANE

by Lorane (Reid) Dumont

John was four years old when he arrived in Falher with his father Charles, mother Antonia (Couture), brothers Millet, Floyd, Henry, Louis and sister Irène in 1930. Thereafter the family settled in Whitemud Creek. The Dumonts' first residence was in a log house they constructed on the NW 32-74-22-W5, where the Chalifoux elevator now stands. They later moved to mother Antonia's quarter SE 32-74-22-W5 where the family grew up. They had just settled there when their father passed away in 1940 at the age of 58. The family was so poor they sent their sick dad on the train to a hospital in Edmonton and never saw him again. It was a real



Lorane & John Dumont's wedding. Frances Reid, maid of honor, Romeo Dumont, best man.

struggle for a few years for their mom Antonia and the family.

John's education started at the age of 10, when the first log school was built. He had to quit school at age 15 after his father passed away. For a boy who spoke only French at home and knew no English until he started school, he did amazingly well. In his five years of schooling, he learned the English language and achieved a grade seven level of education. He had 2 1/2 miles to walk one way in all seasons.

Eventually John worked away from home and in 1943 bought his first homestead NW 1/4 3-74-22-W5. He also started trucking, hauling railway ties in the Edson area with an older brother, Joe, in 1947. John and brothers Joe and Floyd also tried ice fishing on the Great Slave Lake the winter of 1949.

In 1955 he bought our present residence, quarter SW 1/4 6-74-22-W5 that was originally homesteaded by a Scottish bachelor by the name of Sinclair.

In 1959 he met and married a local girl, Lorane Reid, daughter of Wilfrid Reid and Pauline Purdue Reid.

John came from pioneer stock and his life so far reflects that fact. Every quarter of land bought had to be cleared of the heavy bush and worked until it was ready for seeding. We have also bought the two quarters where the Nurse's Station and Post Office were located. These old

landmarks are situated directly across from our residence.

I, Ruby Lorane Reid Dumont known as Lorane am also a pioneer of the Whitemud Creek area. My father Wilfred, mother Pauline, sister Francis, Uncle John, grandfather John and Aunt Averil moved from Hythe and Grande Prairie in 1946. Dad was a veteran and took V.L.A. land S ½ 17-74-22-W5. To date I had been a town kid and loved it. As a youngster, I was an Ann of Green Gables type, the mouth anyway, and this was to be an adventure. However, unknown to me at the time this new way was to be permanent. Well, an adventure it turned out to be. Going to town took all day. We had a "Creek" tributary of the Smoky River that we had to cross with no bridge and the hills were so steep that the water barrels tipped half way up the other side. Then on to Rosaire Nairon's or through Dumont's, in the winter, into what was the civilized part of the district. From Whitemud Creek, one had to go on across the Smoky River, which to the earliest settlers, Dumonts, Doris's, Killips to name a few, meant crossing without a ferry but rather they had to ford the river with a team



Road washed out after heavy rain.

of horses. We were privileged to have had the use of the first Ferry. That is when it was operable after spring break-up and during the summer until the ice froze on the river. In between, one crossed on the ice if it was frozen hard enough. If not we used the basket or at worst waited for the ice to freeze or have the ferry put back in after a heavy rainfall. That left many stranded. In those days the roads were only trails in most areas, ours in any case. All hills and roads were not gravelled. Also there was very little snow removal equipment. In any case only up to

Dumont's, never our way unless a stray cat tractor with seismic came through during the winter.

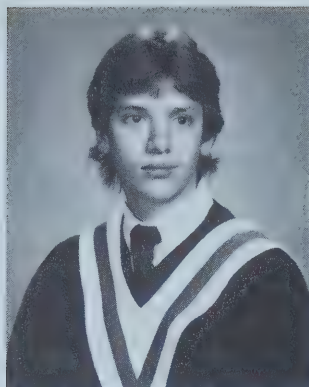
School was out of the question, with no roads, bridges ten miles away, and of course no school buses in those days. My sister Frances and I were perfectly satisfied to leave well enough alone. Our poor hardworking mom tried correspondence lessons but that proved unfruitful. Then the summer of 1949 dad took our family and a truck load of the "Hide Outs" as we called ourselves and we went to Guy for a church and community picnic, bingo, bazaar, and supper. To Fran and me this was great. However, unknown to us it was the beginning of the end of our freedom. The picnic proceeds were for the construction of the R.C. Residential Parish school operated by only five hardworking sisters of the order of Holy Cross. These five sisters' duties included the spiritual, educational, social, medical, and last but not least cook for 65 youngsters. These poor ladies took on an almost impossible situation in almost unbearable conditions and gave the best they had to offer. It was these special ladies' devotion to serving beyond the call of duty that gave many a child a window into education. We came to them from pioneer homes, and they did try to make ladies and gentlemen out of us. For myself it has left me with many mixed feelings. In all honesty I can say I am the better for having had the experience. I spent from age nine to thirteen inclusive at the convent. My sister Fran and I arrived at the convent the only two English Protestants. We received a rude awakening. I am very proud that I learned the French language. Our mama Pauline even learned to understand some French from Fran and me. Then I attended school in High Prairie, Grande Prairie and Falher.

The years fly by so fast when we're young, strong and full of ambitions. Our old-timers have all moved or passed away. Now I find John



Joan & Andrew Leonard Dumont.

Glen Dumont.



and I are Whitemud Creek's old-timers. The years, good and bad, have seen so many changes. When people who have left the district come back they are lost. The old landmarks are gone. There are new roads in every direction and bridges, all the open land, and the many other improvements are such that it is no longer the old Whitemud Creek.

Our oldest son, Andrew, started school in 1969-70 and that was the last year the Smith-reade School was in operation. The resident teacher was Jean Rice who later became Jean Jackson. The school was one mile from our home place and has subsequently been moved away.

The power line was brought in the area in 1958. The old log Roman Catholic church is no longer at the corner and Nairon's store is gone. We had the use of the first phones in the summer of 1965. John and I have never left the area since we arrived as children with our parents.

Our story is truly Pioneer Canadian and a blend of the old and the new. We had to accept life as the cards were dealt. But our children, the third generation living in the Whitemud Creek area can now take their place as true Canadians.

John Lucien: n.19-04-1926 m.05-11-1959

Lorane Reid: n.10-07-1940

CHILDREN:

1. Andrew Leonard: 24-09-1963

He lives in Calgary and is a Geophysical Technologist.

2. Joan Lory: n.26-11-1964 m.17-12-1983

William Petluck

Joan is an R.N having graduated from U of A.

3. Glen Lyle: n. 07-07-1969

He is taking grade 12 at Hillside High School in Valleyview.

DUMONT, MILET & DORIS, HELEN

by Milet Dumont

In 1930 my father, Charles, my mother, Antonia, and six of their children left their

Saskatchewan farm because of the drought conditions. They relocated in the Whitemud Creek area.

Being nineteen years old at the time, I helped clear and open up the homesteads as well as work out.

In the spring of 1937, I decided to stay home and work there. As things were getting a little better, there was no future for me to work out for the kind of salary that I had been getting. For the first 18 months, it was pretty tough. In the fall of 1938, I had 28 pigs for sale and that gave me a nice sum of money. I had never had so much in my life-- after that things were pretty good for me. I have never regretted having had a start on the homestead.



On the homestead in 1930, Mr. Lachapelle, dad, Floyd and Milet Dumont.

In 1941, I married Helen Doris, daughter of William and Isabella Doris.

In 1942 my wife, Helen, filed on homestead NE-32-74-22- 05. By 1948, both places were cleared; not a stump or tree left on the land. It had been a lot of work to clear the land, even with a good team of horses. In 1949, we built a new house and also installed a 50 foot wind-mill needed to run the washing machine, iron, radio, and the deep freeze. We were unable to get a refrigerator that used 32-volt power, so a coal oil refrigerator was purchased. We also installed hot and cold running water; suddenly it seemed we had all the modern conveniences.

After purchasing a new car in 1950, we took a holiday every summer. In December we purchased the NE-31-74-22-05 from Mr. Courchesne. The land was all cleared, ploughed and summer fallowed.

In 1955, we were told that a teacher could not be found for the Whitemud Creek School. A



R.1 Helen, Milet. R.2 Jim, Caroline, Denis, Byron, Louise, Doreen.

neighbor and I went to High Prairie to see about this situation and were told that this really was the case. After that we looked around Falher for a place to buy so that the children could attend school. The only place that I could find was two miles from Ballater No. 1 School, but the same problem of no teacher existed there.

We went to Grande Prairie and found a place three miles from town on a paved road where a school bus was available. The move was complete with the purchase of the land SE-11-72-06-06. By September 15, the children were in school. In March 1957, the Whitemud Creek farm was sold to the Chalifoux Brothers of Falher. The sale of the farm marked the end of that part of our life in that area.

In 1971, we decided to retire. We sold everything and went to live in Grande Prairie. Now that we did not have the commitments of the farm we were able to travel again.

We have travelled to California, via the west coast, and back through Denver, Colorado. The great part of that trip was the Redwood Forest. We have also visited three Hawaii Islands, the Carribean, all the provinces of Canada including Newfoundland, Inuvik, N.W.T. and Alaska. This past summer, 1986, we went to Vancouver for Expo, the World Fair.

Now we are active with the Senior Citizen group. In 1984, a group of us went to Camrose to participate in the Summer Games. Our team in Floor Curling won the Bronze medal. We also have a trophy for bowling. This summer Helen participated in Orienteering in the Senior Summer Games and won the Silver medal.

During the summer, we take the boat and trailer and go fishing. We have gone to most of the lakes within 150 miles of the city. We have

good health and find that retirement is the part of our life that we enjoy the most.

Milet Dumont n. 12-02-1911 m. 1941

Helen Doris

CHILDREN:

1. Caroline: m.

Louis Loewen. They have two children. Caroline is a teacher in Grande Prairie.

2. Louise, trained as a Certificat Nursing Aide. m. Arnold Baum, who farms in Woking, AB. They have four children.

3. Denis: m.

Sherry Mooreman. They have two children.

4. Doreen: m.

Kor deJong. They have two children. Doreen works as an Interior Designer in Edmonton.

5. Jim

He graduated from the University of Alberta as a Civil Engineer. He lives and works in Calgary.

6. Bryon: m.

Marille McBrian. He works as an Electronic Technician in Grande Prairie.

DUMONT, ROMEO & MORISSETTE, MARLENE

by Mrs. Marlene Dumont

Romeo Dumont, youngest son of Charles and Antonia Dumont was the first baby born at home in Whitemud Creek June 9, 1933. Growing up was hard on Romeo for he lost his dad due to illness November 10, 1940. Starting school he had a two mile walk and knowing only French, Romeo had to learn English. Years went by and when he was old enough Romeo left school to stay home and help his mother take care of the cattle. Then time came when he went out to



R.1 Rene, Romeo, Marlene. R.2 Bobby, Joyce.

work hauling logs with his older brothers. After saving money, Romeo bought a logging truck and worked many winters in Hinton, Alberta, returning every spring to take care of his mother.

A few years later with farming on his mind, Romeo decided to purchase more land. This was SE-36-74-23-W5 owned by Alphonse Courchesne of Falher. A lot of work had to be done to clear this land to make it productive. There was a shack on the property, with a few old buildings which were cleared away. A large garage and shed were built.

The trailer was sold and later a new home was built. Romeo's mother had moved to the Nursing Home in McLennan where she passed away January 13, 1980 at the age of 91 years.

On July 14, 1967 Romeo married Marlene Morissette, the daughter of Leo and Mae Morissette. Being raised on a farm it wasn't hard becoming a farm wife.

In 1969 Romeo was elected councillor for the M.D. of Smoky River #130, and to this day is still serving on the council, farming, and raising a family of three.

Romeo Dumont: n.09-06-1933 m.14-07-1967

Marlene Morissette: n.01-11-1945

CHILDREN:

1. Rene: n.02-07-1965
2. Bobby: n.20-03-1968
3. Joyce: n.21-05-1969

DUSSEAUT, GERALD & LORRAIN, SYLVIANE

by Gerald

Gerald, son of Raymond Dusseault and Alice Demers married Sylviane Lorrain, daughter of Ernest and Edith Owens.

"What brought us to the Whitemud Area? The news that a road and a bridge would be built to give access from that area to Girouxville and Falher. At that time a ferry was used to cross the river. "But where would the road be built?" was the big question. So in 1961 we took a chance and filed for homestead lease on N 1/2 7-76-22-W5 and S 1/2 18-76-22-W5. We resided on these leases for a couple of months during the summer while clearing some of the land.

Over many years we cleared 1000 acres of land. In 1972 we purchased a 1/2 section of land from Clair Starrs and moved permanently to the Whitemud Area. We later purchased more land from Glenn Symon and John DeWeese."

Gerald Dusseault: n.14-07-1938 m.20-08-1962

Sylviane Lorrain: n.02-11-1941

CHILDREN:

1. Denis: n.30-01-1967
2. Lynn: n.21-02-1970

FEY, MARTIN & GRETCHEN

by Paulette Dumont

Martin, with wife Gretchen and son, Otto, immigrated to Canada from Gnutz, Germany in 1923. They first settled in the Ashmont-St. Paul area where they farmed for 14 years. They later



Martin Fey.



Gretchen Fey.

moved to the Whitemud District in 1937, when Martin filed for a homestead. This is where he resided until his death. Otto and his Mom kept farming. Mrs. Fey was well known as a kind-hearted neighbor who was always ready to lend a helping hand. In 1974 they sold the farm and retired to Falher. Gretchen moved to Our Lady of the Lake Nursing Home in McLennan where she resided for two years prior to her passing away. Otto is still living in Falher.

Martin Fey: n. 06-01-1890 m. 31-01-1919 d. 30-06-1961

Gretchen: n. 18-11-1896 d. 17-06-1982

CHILD:

1. Otto: n. 01-02-1920

GAGNON, RICHARD (DICK) & DECHIEF, CLAIRE

by Richard

Claire and I, got married in Edmonton on August 2, 1965. We had no intention of farming but when we got back from our trip to Vancouver, we got talked into taking a homestead E ½-35-73-22-W5. In 1967 it finally came through so we moved to Whitemud Creek temporarily and broke 40 acres. It was a lot of fun: no power, no phone, no water, no road and a lot of mosquitoes. A funny incident happened to us then. As I was coming home to fuel the tractor I scared a bear through the yard. My wife was in the garden and when she saw the bear she got scared and ran to the shack. The next day, when I came home for dinner, I noticed she had parked the truck next to the garden, left the door opened, so she could make a quick get away in case the bear came back for a visit!

After, seeding we would move back to our house at my Dad's farm in Guy. I did some carpentry work for many people of the area for many years, doing my farming in between these capenter jobs.

In 1974 we bought a farm SW-23-74-25-W5 from Roméo Desfosses. This was more convenient for our home. We had three children. By then the oldest was starting school.

This has been our home ever since. The children attend school in Valleyview; Ken has graduated this year (1987).

Richard Gagnon: n.26-10-1938 m.02-08-1965

Claire Dechief: n.27-06-1944

CHILDREN:

1- Ken: n.27-02-1969

2- Ron: 08-01-1971

3- Rachael: 29-10-1974

GARDNER, TOM & PLEWS, FLORENCE

by Alice (Gardner) Bryson

Tom Gardner and his family lived in the area south of the Little Smoky River known as Whitemud Creek.

Tom Gardner (my father) was born in Simcoe, Ontario, August 15, 1888. He came to Alberta in 1912 and homesteaded one mile East of the small village of Cessford. (East of Calgary). Later he married Florence Gardner and they raised three children. Archie was born 12-02-1918, Alice born 30-08-1920 and Bill born 17-05-1929.



Harry Gardner, Tom's brother, with products from his garden. Apparently, Harry fed milk to his pumpkins.

My father later had a general store in Cessford but kept his farm.

During the depression of the 1930's there was an extreme drought in Southern Alberta. People could no longer raise feed for their animals or grow gardens for themselves. The government offered to exchange homestead land there, for homesteads south of Little Smoky.

Tom Gardner and many others took advantage of this offer. We left Cessford on July 4, 1934 on a special train filled with families from the area, their livestock and all their worldly possessions. It was a long trip.

On arrival in Falher, Alberta, we rented a small house and I attended High School there in September. During this year my father and older brother moved our animals and other belongings to the Smoky River, where they built a log house and barn for the winter. When the ice broke up in the spring they were able to ford the river (there was no bridge) and haul the belongings to our new homestead the SE-¼-26-74-23- W5th.



The Gardner home in Whitemud.

Here they were obliged once again to build temporary living accommodations.

When school finished for the season, Mother, Bill and I went out also. They planted some garden, cut some hay, cleared some land and began building a permanent log house which was finished before cold weather set in.

Our rural life up to this date had been quite a let-down after leaving our comfortable bungalow in Cessford.

There was no school in Whitemud for some time so those of us who were old enough studied by ourselves and younger ones didn't get started for a few years.

The roads in those days were terrible. They were just trails through virgin bush, muddy and full of fallen logs and stumps. The only means of travel was by wagon, and the horses, as well as the passengers, suffered.

The people all worked at clearing land, a slow laborious job. There were no tractors or other machines to help. The men took time off to hunt for moose and deer. Except for chickens, this was our only supply of fresh meat. Calves and pigs were not eaten as they were sold to buy other necessities.

In 1936, my father's brother, Harry Gardner also from Cessford, settled 1 mile south west of us. He was born in England in 1886.

The neighbors living within a two mile radius of us at that time were Blagens, Killips, Smiths, Burns, Morissettes, Wallace Coté, Leo Coté, Geo. Reades, A.L. Hansens. My father passed away on 08-03-1940.

Archie and I were both in the army during the second World War. Archie was overseas and soon after his return he married Claire Rey of Falher. They lived 1 1/2 miles south of mother and Bill, until Bill bought their land. They moved to



R.1 Gilbert & Vivian. R.2 Bertha, Florence, Claire, Archie, Bill and Bob Gardner uncle.

B.C. where they still live. They have two children; Gilbert, married and living on Vancouver Island, and Vivian who is married and still teaching school in Kamloops, B.C. I spent my army years in Halifax, N.S. and in 1946 came to Quebec City to work for the Dept. Of National Defense. There I met and married George Bryson. He passed away in 1979. I have one son Robert, married and living here in Quebec City.

My mother and Bill continued to live on the farm and built a comfortable home in 1950. My mother was there until her 81st year and then sold to Bill and moved to B.C. where she still lives. Bill bought several quarters of land, cleared and farmed it. He sold it all in the late 1970's and lived for five years in Girouxville. He then bought a home in Calgary where he still lives.

1.m. Frank Gardner; n.1894 m.06-03-1916 d.03-11-1918

Florence Plews; n.04-03-1897

1. Archie; n.12-02-1918 m.26-11-1947

Claire Rey; n.12-04-1923. They have two children

a) Gilbert; 30-03-1949 m.12-02-1972

Gwen Johnson; n.28-07-1953.

i) Jennifer; n.26-06-1974

ii) Sarah; n.27-12-1976

b) Vivian; n.03-10-1950 m.14-08-1976

Bruce MacDonald; n.28-10-1946

2.m. Tom Gardner; n.15-08-1888 m.19-10-1919 d.08-04-1940

1. Alice; n.30-08-1920 m.19-04-1949

George Bryson; n.05-07-1920 d.22-11-1979

a) Robert; n.30-04-1951 m.02-12-1978

Doris Cormier; n.02-02-1952

i) Caroline; n.06-04-1980

b) William; n.17-05-1929

HANSON, ARTHUR

by Dolores Doris

Arthur and his wife settled on NW 1/4-27-74-23-5 in 1937 with no family; his children had not come with them. In 1951 he sold his land to Norman Reade and moved out. Norman later sold that land to Ray Cote.

HARVEY, THOMAS & GAUTHIER-FOURNIER, ALICE

by Rosaire Nairon

My grand-parents, Alice and Thomas Harvey came to Whitemud Creek, AB., in July 1930 with my uncle Raphaël Lachapelle and his wife Marie Ange Gauthier. The grandparents had given themselves over to their daughter and son-in-law; that is they gave their assets to their daughter Marie-Ange and her husband. This was a custom in Quebec. That is the reason why this elderly couple came out West.

Marie Ange died in Edmonton after a long illness. Not long after his wife's death Raphaël, a blacksmith, left for British Columbia.

It so happened that my grand-parents came to stay with my parents Mr. and Mrs. Médéric Nairon at Whitemud. My grandmother died August 7, 1933. When grandfather died at the age of 72, November 25, 1933 no one could cross the Little Smoky River to get to the church of Guy because the ice was not firm enough. A week later my parents tried to make the trip but were obliged to leave the coffin on a little island and wait another week before being able to travel to Guy for the funeral. They both rest in the Guy cemetery close to the tall cross in the center.

Thomas Harvey: d. 25-11-1933

Alice Fournier: d. 07-08-1933

HIRSCH, RALPH

by Mrs. Mae Morisette

On September 7, 1934, due to a drought, Ralph and Pauline Hirsch, daughters Mae and Helen, arrived in Falher from Cessford, Alberta. Freight was free by train so they brought all their belongings, including machinery and livestock.

We stayed at Levesque's farm until school was out at the end of June and we moved to Whitemud Creek July 1, 1934. A log cabin was already built by good neighbors and also a barn was put up before winter set in. Our land location was NE 31- 74-22-W5. Later a school was built in 1936 by our neighbors of the district so we could attend school again. First teacher was Miss Helen Fox, followed by Miss Margret Elm, and then Thomas Wells who taught for three years.



Pauline Hirsh with grand daughters Marlene & Cathy Morisette. Ralph Hirsh.

By this time another daughter was born, Shirley. Ralph and Pauline, due to sickness, moved back to Saskatchewan in 1942 never returning. Their three children are:

CHILDREN:

1. Mae: n.24-05-1923
m.
Leo Morisette (see Morisette, Leo story)
2. Helen: n.02-02-1930
m.
Harry Miller
3. Shirley: n.02-02-1937
m.
Rodney Miller

HOLUBOWICH, JOSEPH & DIDUCK, MARIA

by Janet Marier Maisonneuve

Joseph Holubowich was born in September 27, 1888, in Poland. He came to Canada alone as a young lad of 16 years of age. He worked in shipyards in Halifax and Vancouver. Later he came to Alberta where he met and married Maria Diduck who was living in Chipman, Alberta. Maria was born on December 7, 1888 in the Galicia area of Austria (Western Ukraine). She arrived in Canada with her parents at the age of 11 years.

Joseph was a well-known farmer in North Bank in the Smoky Lake area, Alberta. Besides farming he also raised cattle. He was an active community member as he served as councillor and school trustee for many years in Smoky Lake.

The prospect of better land attracted Joseph to the Peace River District. In 1937, he moved his family to Whitemud on quarter section NW 34-74-23-W5. With the help of several sons, he was able to clear the land by hand.



Maria and Joseph Holubowich in 1957.



Holubowich sons: Carl Peter, Walter, Tony and Felix.

In 1949, Joseph sold his land to Bill Bachand and retired to Vancouver. This land was resold later to Herb Doris.

Several of Joseph and Maria's children remained in the Whitemud area.

Of this union there were twelve children. Joseph died in March 1961 and was laid to rest in Vancouver. Maria survived him by almost twenty years. She died in August 1980 and was laid to rest in Vancouver.

Joseph Holubowich: n. 27-09-1888



Holubowich daughters: Mina, Fanny, Ann, Rose and Helen.

m.

d. -03-1961

Maria Diduck: n. 07-12-1888

d. -08-1980

CHILDREN:

1- Mike: (See Mike Holubowich)

2- Augustus: b. 1910

d. 1918

3- Carl: b. 1912

m.

d. 1969

Emily Syrnyk

Four children: Thor, Leonard, Anthony and Arlene

4- Mina: b. 1913

m.

Lionel Marier: d. -12-1981

Four children: Joe, Janet, Rose and Betty.

5- Frances: b. 1915

m.

Lucko Stosky: d. 1980

Eight children: Mary, Anne, Eddie, Paulien (d. 1983), Helen, Phyllis, Tom and Della.

6- Peter: b. 1916

married Violet Soyki

7- Anne: b. 1918

married Ed Legersky

Four children: Josei, Carol, Shirley and Irene.

8- Rose: b. 1920

married Tony Fleury

Six children: Annette, Felix(d.), Deanna, Antoinette, Pearl and Michael.

9- Walter: b. 1922

married Betty Popove

Two children: Rosemarie and Carl (d. 1963)

- 10- Tony: b. 1925
married Hazel Jensen one son Allan
- 11- Helen: b. 1930
married Floyd Dumont.
two sons Emile and David.
- 12- Felix: b. 1934
married Eileen Gramard

HOLUBOWICH, MIKE & BELISH, ANN

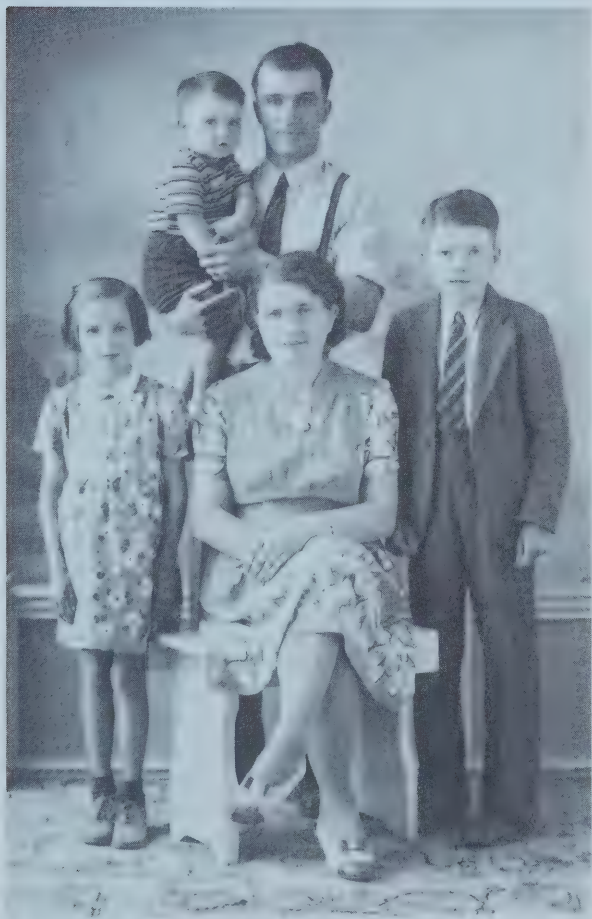
by Phyllis Holubowich Spannier

Mike was born November 7, 1907, in North Bank near Smokey Lake to Joseph Holubowich and Maria Diduck, the eldest of 12 children.

He married Ann Belish in 1933 and of this union they had three children:

- 1- John: b. August 3, 1934
m. Liz Horban
- 2- Phyllis: b. April 18, 1938
m. Ernie Spannier
- 3- Elmer: b. January 5, 1943
d. August 1, 1965

In 1937 Mike arrived in Whitemud and bought SW 33-74-23- W5 from Bill Norbloom.



R.1 Phyllis, Ann, John. R.2 Elmer and Mike Holubowich.

After a few years on the farm Mike moved to Edmonton but only remained there for four years. He, then, returned to his farm which had been rented by Herb Doris.

Mike was well-known as a baseball enthusiast and as a violinist.

For many years he played for dances at Edge-hill Hall with Roger Winnicky. He also entertained at many local picnics in Whitemud Creek. For many years Mike graded the roads in Whitemud. He used his tractor to pull the grader along the "ungravelled" roads.

Over the years Mike was an avid trapper. He had his own trapline and spent many solitary hours roaming the bushland of Whitemud until his retirement.

He was well-known for his "green thumb" as many residents can vouch for. Many bought his strawberries, raspberries, and vegetables such as cucumbers, cababages and cauliflowers.

Education for their children, although an important part of one's life, was difficult to come by. It meant a five miles (yes, and that's on foot) walk to the Smithreade School. It was the typical school of that era. Certificated teachers were scarce so for many years Supervisors of Correspondence courses offered the only education in the area.

John was sent to St-Augustin Mission in Peace River for two years and in the Grouard Mission for one year. Phyllis also went to Peace River's St-Augustine Mission for two years.

In 1985, Mike sold his land to Herb Doris but remained on the farm until November 1986.

Mike moved to Williams Lake, B.C. with his wife, Tina Legersky.

KILLIPS, ROY & LUCY

by Lucy Killips

Tom Killips filed on land in the Whitemud Creek district right after the first World War in the year 1919. He came from Edmonton where his family lived. He brought in about 30 head of cattle but the winter was too harsh and he lost some of them so he rented a farm in the district of Falher and pastured the rest there. Soon that failed too and he went back to Edmonton.

In 1930 his sons, Harry, Roy and Gordon all took homesteads which were located close to where their father Tom had his land.

In 1932 Tom Killips, along with his three sons and their wives moved into the Whitemud Creek district to make their homes there. There was no work to be had in Edmonton so having our own land seemed to be the next best thing. Harry and Gordon did not live there very long but Roy and his wife Lucy stayed in the area from 1932 until



Roy, Lucy & baby Nancy.

1956. Our land location was the N $\frac{1}{2}$ 13-74-23-5. Roy and Lucy raised five children: Wayne, Donalda, Myrna, Dennis and Nancy.

The first trip out to the homestead was somewhat of an event for me as I had never been there before or seen anything like it. The country was beautiful but the roads were terrible. Roy and I crossed the river in the spring of 1932 on April 9th, along with our son Wayne who was one year old. Roy's father, Tom, was with us. Tom drove the horses and sleigh across the river ice and Roy and I walked, carrying Wayne. There was a two foot crack in the ice on the river and the water flowed very fast. I was not afraid because it was all new to me and I did not realize how dangerous it was and no one told me either. Anyway, the ice in the river broke up the very next day so we got over just in time. We continued on our journey to the homestead and after many miles and lots of bends in the road, we finally arrived. There were other settlers living in the area then and our nearest neighbor lived three miles away. Their name was Mr. and Mrs. LaChapelle and Roy would walk three miles every day so we could have milk for our son. Two months later we had our own milk cows shipped from Edmonton by my parents so we had lots of milk, cream and butter.

Our only way to travel the first years we lived there was by horses and wagon. There were no gravelled roads then so the roads were no more than wagon trails. We had to cross the Little Smoky River to get to the town of Falher which



Myrna, Wayne, Donalda, Dennis.

was our nearest town and that was 30 miles away and we had to ford the river to get there. I remember the time my father-in-law, Tom Kil-lips, tried to cross the river when it was high. He lost the wagon and groceries but managed to save himself and the horses. I also remember the time my husband, Roy, and a few of our neighbors had to get their hogs to market. The river was high so they loaded two hogs at a time on a boat and crossed them over. There were about 65 hogs. There was a truck waiting on the other side and the hogs were loaded into that and taken to town.

We cleared land and grew crops as well as raised cattle and hogs. Of course it was all done by horse power. We grew very good gardens and there was always lots of wild fruits and game. As time went by, the government improved the roads, built a ferry on the river which made crossing so much safer and in time a bridge was built.

We had very few comforts in those days, no electricity, no phones and no T.V. but we did have a radio so we kept track of what was going on in the world. Our homes were built of logs and heated with wood. A lot of wood was cut to keep us warm.

We lived outside the school district and the school there at the time was too far away for our children to attend so they took some of their

schooling by correspondence and later in Edmonton. We worked very hard and things did get better and we were able to afford a tractor and combine. One by one the children left the farm for the city of Edmonton. Our daughter, Myrna married a young man in the district and lived there for quite a number of years. The rest of us left the farm and moved to Edmonton in 1956 and we are still living there.

LEGAULT, AZELINE ET FILS ALFRED

par ses petites-filles Blanche Dumas et Yvette Robertson

Mme Legault (née Desnommés) était une femme très courageuse. Elle laissa son foyer à Verner, Ont. pour venir avec son mari, Félix, et ses enfants, dans l'ouest à l'automne 1912.

Félix Legault fut le premier postillon de la région de Falher, faisant le trajet à Grouard deux fois par semaines. Le courrier, en tout temps, toutes saisons, par 60 milles de sentiers primitifs, ce n'est pas une affaire de légende ou



Benoit Aubin, Annette Gamache, Auxiliatrice Lessard in front of Grandma Legault's home.

de poésie, c'est l'histoire de Félix dans les premiers temps de la colonie. Madame Legault c'est la femme pionnière; malgré la misère et bien des épreuves, elle ne perdit jamais courage et semblait toujours joyeuse. Elle perdit son mari Félix en 1925 à l'âge de 64 ans. Elle dut se débrouiller avec l'aide de ses garçons, Alfred et Wilfrid.

Elle prenait grand plaisir à embellir son jardin avec toutes sortes d'arbres fruitiers et de fleurs.

En 1929, elle prit du terrain à Whitemud, NW 8-75-22-W5 Alfred prit le NE 8-75-22-W5. Dans les années 1934-35, au plus creux de la Crise, et à un âge où bien d'autres songent à la retraite, elle s'engagea avec Alfred dans l'aventure Whitemud. Alfred a souvent pris des



Alfred Legault.

risques en traversant la rivière Smoky quand le traversier ne fonctionnait pas. Il était toujours prêt à aider si quelqu'un avait besoin de traverser pour cause de maladie ou autre. Pour combattre l'ennui il se prit une "mail-order-bride", Annie McLennan.

Au début des années '40 Madame Legault a vendu son terrain à Falher à M. Oliva Aubin et déménagea sur son "homestead" à Whitemud. Quand elle eut obtenu les titres de son terrain elle le vendit à M. Bill Côté.

En 1944 elle alla rejoindre Alfred et sa femme à Vanderhoof, C.B., où il opérait un moulin à scie. Plus tard ils déménagèrent à Isle Pierre, C.B.

Grand-Mère Legault mourut en 1953 à l'âge de 87 ans. Alfred passa ses dernières années à Prince George où il mourut en 1974 à l'âge de 81 ans. Sa femme était morte quelques années avant.

* * *

Mrs. Legault, born Desnommés, was a very courageous woman. She left her home in Verner, Ontario with her husband Felix and their children to head West in the fall of 1912.

Felix was the first mailman in the Falher area. He travelled to Grouard twice weekly. As the saying goes, "neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet" kept him from his appointed duties.

LLOYD, ARNOLD & KILLIPS, MYRNA

by Myrna Lloyd

I was born in McLennan, Alberta on February 3, 1934. I was the third child born to Roy and Lucy Killips. My parents arrived in Whitemud Creek in the spring of 1932. There were five children born to them: Wayne, Donald, Myrna, Dennis and Nancy.

My grandfather, Tom Killips, was one of the first settlers in the Whitemud Creek area, arriv-



Mark, Duane, Audrey, Valerie and Shelly Lloyd.

ing in 1919. He filed on the NW-18-74-22-W5 where he made his home for several years.

My parents had the N $\frac{1}{2}$ -13-74-23-W5 which was right across the road from my grandfather. Our closest neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. Oden Blagen to the south of us and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Frey to the north of us.

Times were tough in those days as there weren't any phones, running water, roads or power. The only means of travel was by horses and wagon in the summertime and sleigh in the winter. Our nearest town was Falher, which was about 30 miles away. The grain was hauled there with horses and wagon or sleigh. We did not go to town very often considering the distance, so we stocked up on the groceries when we did go. Our stopping place was usually at Ed Brennan's as it was too far to make the trip in one day. We would spend the night there, where he also had shelter for the horses. He was also a good cook. In the summertime we had to ford the Smoky River and cross on the ice in the winter.

Farming was all done with horses until 1948-1949 when my Dad got his first tractor.

We started school by correspondence courses and took some of our schooling in Edmonton.

My parents left the farm in November of 1956 and moved to Edmonton where they still reside. They live in their own home. They later sold the farm to Wilfred Reid who sold it to John Dumont.

Wayne, Donald, Dennis and Nancy all live in Edmonton. I was the only one of the five children who stayed in Whitemud Creek.

I married Arnold Lloyd in 1952 and we farmed the W $\frac{1}{2}$ -20-74-22-W5 up until 1981 when the farm was sold to Irvin and Linda Ziegler from Carbon, Alberta. Five children were born to us. They are: Mark, Audrey, Duane, Val-



Road and culvert washed out at Lloyd's Creek.

erie and Shelley. All the children are now living in Edmonton except for Shelley who lives in Valleyview and is employed at Alberta Municipal Affairs. I also live in Valleyview and am employed at the Red Willow Lodge Senior Citizen's Home.

MACDONALD, HETTIE

by Dolores Doris

Hettie came to the Whitemud Creek area with her mother in 1935 and filed on Sw $\frac{1}{4}$ -7-75-22-W5. There were one son and three daughters.



Theodore O'Brien & Harriet MacDonald.

CHILDREN:

1. Harry
2. Harriet. Married Theodore O'Brien
3. Buddy. Married Ivan Siemons
4. Hope. Married George Hillaby.

MARIER, LIONEL & HOLUBOWICH, MINA

by Janet Marier Maisonneuve

Lionel was born to Arthur Marier and Eléonard Chalifoux, June 2, 1905 at St. Rémi d'Amherst, Québec. He was the eldest of ten children. His mother died when he was barely 15 years old. His sister, Pamela (age 14) became an instant mother and helped raise her younger brothers and sisters.

Lionel left St. Jovite, Québec, where his family had moved when he was a child, to work in Abitibi.



Mina & Lionel Marier.

At the age of 19 he worked in Northern Ontario for five years at places like Hearst, Kapuskasing, and Opasatika. In March, 1929 he came to Alberta with Alphonse Garand and Antoine St. Martin. The previous year had seen them in Saskatchewan harvesting crops on the Prairies. In Edmonton, they were told to go to the Peace River area as there were many French-speaking people there; they could possibly find work. Upon their arrival the first job was on the construction of the first theater in Falher. Later that year Lionel made handles for axes, hammers and shovels.

He was enjoying his stay and by May 11, 1929, he filed for his first quarter, SW-16-75-22-W5. He "grubbed" by hand in the spring, summer, and fall. In the winter he worked on bridge crews and at whatever employment was available at the time. As he cleared more land and sowed more grain he was able to stay on his homestead during the winter months.

During the Depression he was one of the few who lived very well. He was often asked to hunt for individuals in Falher and in return they gave him flour, sugar, shells and on one occasion a few hens.

By 1941, Lionel had one of the first threshing machines in Whitemud Creek. He had a threshing crew and this required a cook. He hired Mina Holubowich, born August 16, 1913. Although there was a language barrier (adjusted with time) they married and of this union they had three daughters. The language of love knows no barriers!

Lionel Marier: n.02-06-1905

Mina Holubowich: n.16-08-1913

CHILDREN:

1. Janet: n.13-11-1942 m.21-06-1980
Guy Maisonneuve
2. Rose: n.27-04-1944 m.04-07-1969
Léonce Pelletier. Two children: Nicole and Marc.
3. Betty n. 29-03-1951 m. 27-10-1972
Mike O'Sullivan. Three children: Shaunna, Joanne and Lori.
4. Joe n. 29-12-1932 is Mina's son from a previous marriage.

Mina was born in North Bank in the Smoky Lake area. She was born to Joseph Holubowich (n. 27-09-1888) and Maria Diduck (n. 07-12-1888). Mina was one of 12 children.

Joseph Holubowich moved to Whitemud Creek from Smoky Lake in 1937 with his family. After some ten years on the farm he moved to Vancouver where he died in 1961 and Maria died in 1980.

Lionel was a foreman for the Department of Highways in Whitemud Creek for several years prior to the formation of the Municipal District. He served as the first councillor for Division #2 from 1952-1961 in the newly formed Municipal District of Smoky River #130.

He spent 46 years on the farm in Whitemud Creek raising cattle, hogs and grain. Farming was becoming too demanding and he sold his farm to Denis Dumont in June, 1975. For a year they lived in a house trailer at Mike Holubowich's. As Lionel's health deteriorated they purchased a house and moved to Falher in the spring of 1976.

For Lionel and Mina education was impor-

tant. The nearest school was Smithreade in Whitemud Creek and this would have meant a three and a half mile walk. It was also priority that their daughters learn French and receive Religious Instruction. Therefore, the girls were sent to the convent in Guy until its closure. In 1958, Lionel and Mina made arrangements with Rosaire and Gertrude Nairon to have their daughters share a trailer which was parked near Willie Brulotte's store. The following year Janet, Rose and Betty stayed alone in a trailer during the week and went home on week-ends. In September 1960, the first school bus route was established in Whitemud, picking up those children who wished to continue their education at the Langlois School in Guy.

Crossing the Little Smoky River to go to the Whitemud area meant using the ferry at certain times of the year only. The worse time of year was when the ferry was not in operation. This literally meant almost complete isolation for the Whitemud area residents. Many interesting tales can be told of breaking through the ice, of fording the river or rolling off the ferry. Lionel, ingeniously built a "basket" which was attached to the ferry cables and was used to cross the river when the ferry was not in operation. Many grocery boxes and barrels of gas were transported by means of this "basket". Also, this basket made it possible for the convent kids to go home on the week-ends and also to return to the convent on Monday mornings.

After a lengthy illness, Lionel died September 2, 1981 and was laid to rest in the Falher cemetery. Presently, Mina is residing in Falher with her son Joe.

MORIN, GERRY & CLOUTIER, MARIE ANGE

by Marie Ange

Gerry was born August 31, 1917 at Saint-Gedeon, Beauce, P.Q., to Henry Morin and Marie Cliche. In 1942, he arrived from Ontario to go trucking for George Smith in Dawson Creek. In April of 1943 he met Marie Ange Cloutier, and they were married December 27, 1943 at Guy, Alberta. After their wedding they left for Fort Nelson, B.C. where Gerry worked on a crane for the American Army. After two years, they returned to Dawson Creek where Gerry returned to trucking for Paul Loiselle, Roland Michaud and Luc Tremblay.

Gerry and his family returned to the Guy-Whitemud area in 1951 where Gerry farmed until 1975. Winters were spent cat-skinning and trucking up north. In 1977 they moved to Falher. Gerry: n. 31-08-1917 m. 27-12-1943 d. 08-11-1983



Gerry et Marie-Ange Morin.



David, Linda, Denis et Clarence debout.

Marie Ange: n.14-03-1923

CHILDREN:

1. Clarence: n.06-10-1954

Brenda Lovelace

They have four children: Tammy, Terry, Penny and Neil.

2. Denis: n.21-06-1948

3. Linda: n.02-06-1950

Gilbert Doucet

They have two children: Diane and Suzanne.

4. David: n.19-09-1952

Joan Zajac

They have two children: Kelly and Michelle.

MORISSETTE, ALPHONSE

Alphonse, who was single, had his own land on which he had built a shack. He cleared about 80 acres which he farmed for about 27 years. He had bought a little Ford tractor and equipment for it. In the late sixties he sold his land to Gilbert Chalifoux and moved to Prince George to live with his brother, Philippe. This is where he died of cancer on December 12, 1969 at the age of 70. He is buried in the Prince George Cemetery where Albert and Philip are also buried.

MORISSETTE, JOSEPH & COTE, MARIE

Joe was married to Marie Côté in the province of Québec. Their son, Léo, was only 5 years old when she died. Joe came to Whitemud in 1931 and filed on SE-36-74-23- W5. On February 23, 1935 he died on his way to the McLennan Hospital and is buried in the Falher cemetery. Grand-



Alphonse Morissette, Louis Dumont.



Joseph, Albert, Eugène, Léo, Henry Morissette.

daughter Marlene Dumont and her husband live on Joe's homestead.

* * *

Joe et Marie Côté se sont mariés dans la province de Québec. Leur fils, Léo, n'avait que cinq ans quand sa mère est décédée. Joe vint à Whitemud en 1931 et prit un "homestead". Le 23 janvier 1935 il mourut en se rendant à l'hôpital de McLennan et est inhumé dans le cimetière de Falher. Sa petite-fille, Marlene Dumont et son mari vivent sur le "homestead" de Joe.

MORISSETTE, LEO & HIRSH, MAE

by Mrs. Mae Morissette

In 1931, Leo Morissette, his father Joseph and brothers Alphonse, Eugene, Albert, and Henry arrived in the Whitemud Creek district. Being told of very fertile land available, Leo's father filed on the SE-36-74-23 W5, Albert filed on SW-4-75-22 W5. After clearing a few trees a log cabin was built. That's when the hardships began. There were no roads, just trails through the bush. Food was rather scarce so it was out to hunt moose, deer, or whatever they could get. Leo's father took sick and died on February 23, 1935 and was buried in Falher.



May & Leo Morissette.

Henry, Eugene and Albert left to work elsewhere. Alphonse stayed, and Leo joined the army. When he returned, he married Mae Hirsh and took up homesteading on land SW-31-74-22-W5. He cleared a site for a log house and barn. They got settled before winter rolled around. Money was scarce so Leo hitched the team of horses to a wagon and with a few belongings headed out to Sturgeon Lake to work hauling logs, during winter. Coming home in the



R.1 Joe, Albert, Roger. R.2 Annette, Marie, Cathy, Marlene.

spring they had saved enough money to buy a John Deere D tractor to break and clear more land. A lack of water was another hardship. In the summer, Leo hauled water from the creek or river. In the winter he cut blocks of ice from the river, and stored them in a shed insulated with sawdust. The dugout was used for the livestock. By this time they had a milk cow, chickens, and pigs.

Roads were being built and a ferry was installed to cross the river to haul grain and livestock.

They also had a party line phone, the lines were run on fences. It was nice to call the neighbors whenever you couldn't go out and visit them.

Years later, Leo decided to work out, this time with a road construction company which took them all over Alberta and Saskatchewan. They sold their land to Romeo Dumont and now have retired in Legal, Alberta. They raised a family of seven children.

Leo Morissette

Mae Hirsh

CHILDREN:

1. Marlene: n.11-01-1945
Roméo Dumont (See Dumont, Romeo)
2. Cathy: n.01-09-1946 d.03-09-1946
3. Cathy: n.24-10-1947
Jim Madden. They have one son.
4. Marie: n.07-04-1951
Ed Halter. They have two sons.
5. Annette: n.28-10-1952
Bob Madden. They have two girls and one boy.
6. Joe: n.02-07-1955 d.1955
7. Joe: n.22-08-1956. (one girl and twin boys)

8. Albert: n.01-01-1960. (One girl and one boy)
9. Roger: n.06-06-1963

NAIRON, MEDERIC & GAUTHIER, CLARA

par Rosaire Nairon

Médéric, fils d'Euchariste et Sophie, arrive à Légal, Alberta, de Jonquière, P.Q. en 1929 avec sa famille. De nouveau ils laissent Légal en juillet 1933 et s'installent sur un "homestead" SE 4-75-22-W5 à Whitemud Creek; ceci suivant les conseils d'un beau-frère, Raphaël Lachapelle. Ils défrichent la terre, bâtissent une maison et autres bâtiments de ferme. Ils connaissent les misères comme les autres colons. En 1940 Médéric achète un autre terrain SE 5-75-22-W5 et ouvre un magasin qui devient le centre de communication de la région. Bientôt on les appelle Grand-père et Grand-mère Nairon, car ils sont au service de tous les gens du milieu. Mme Nairon ne parle pas l'anglais mais réussit quand même à se faire comprendre et à se faire beaucoup d'amis.



R.1 Marie & Clément. R.2 Roland, Rosaire, Clara & Médéric Nairon.

Etant très religieux, ils font pression auprès de l'évêque pour obtenir la formation de la mission St. Marcel et la permission de bâtir une église sur le NE 31-74-22-W5. (Cette bâtisse ayant servi d'église plusieurs années est maintenant la salle communautaire de Whitemud Creek.) Pendant les vacances d'été Médéric et Clara accueillent les religieuses de Ste-Croix qui viennent enseigner le catéchisme à la Mission St. Marcel.

Le 7 août 1971, Médéric et Clara fêtent leur noces de diamants au milieu de leurs enfants, petits-enfants et nombreux amis.

En 1972 après trente-neuf années de service

ils ferment leur magasin et prennent une retraite bien méritée. Ce n'est que pour peu de temps car Médéric est décédé en 1975 et Clara en 1979. Ils sont inhumés, tous les deux, au cimetière de Falher auprès de leur fils Rolland.

Médéric Nairon: n.12-10-1891 m.16-10-1911 d.30-07-1975

Clara Gauthier: n.22-01-1892 d.20-01-1979

ENFANTS:

1. *Rosaire: n.25-04-1921 m. 03-11-1943*

Gertrude Gariépy: n.03-03-1922

(Voir Nairon, Rosaire)

2. *Rolland: n.15-08-1922 d.30-10-1955*

3. *Marie: n.28-01-1924 m. 03-04-1946*

Allan Merchant (Voir Merchant, Allan)

4. *Clément: n.06-04-1926 d.19-05-1979*

Notes de Clara (Merchant) Lagacé:

Rolland Nairon, un bon travaillant a beaucoup aidé son père et son frère Clément. Il aimait bien les enfants et les taquinait beaucoup; appelant Claudette "Punaise". Malheureusement, Roland est décédé jeune à l'âge de trente-trois ans.

Clément est allé au Juniorat St. Jean en 1941-42. Clément a fait partie de l'armée canadienne durant la deuxième guerre mondiale.

* * *

Médéric came to Legal, AB., from Jonquière, P.Q. in 1929. In 1933 he moved his family to a homestead SE 04-75-22-W5 in Whitemud Creek. He cleared the land of trees and built a house and other farm buildings. Like most of the other settlers, he faced much misery and many set-backs.

Médéric bought more land, SE 5-75-22-W5 in 1940 on which he opened a store which became the focal point of the Whitemud community. Soon, everyone was calling them Grandma and Grandpa Nairon, for they were well-known by all the community. Though Mrs. Nairon spoke no English, she succeeded in making many friends just the same.

Clara and Médéric were instrumental in convincing the bishop to form a parish in Whitemud – Paroisse St. Marcel. Later on, a church was built. It served the community as a place of worship for a number of years but later became Whitemud's community hall.

In 1972, after thirty-nine years of service to the community, Clara and Médéric closed their store to enjoy a well-deserved retirement.

Médéric passed away in 1975 and Clara in 1979. Their final resting place is the Falher Cemetery.

NAIRON, ROSAIRE & GARIEPY, GERTRUDE

par Rosaire Nairon

Rosaire, né à St-Joseph d'Alma près de Jonquière est l'aîné de la famille Médéric Nairon. Il arrive à Whitemud Creek avec ses parents en 1933. Comme il n'y a pas d'école dans le district, lui, ses frères et sa soeur, Marie, sont placés à la mission St. Augustin à Peace River où ils sont pensionnaires pour deux ans, revenant à la maison pour les vacances d'été et de Noël.

Jeune homme il travaille d'un emploi à l'autre, les gages sont minimes mais cela aide tout de même à la famille. C'est ainsi qu'en 1943 il rencontre celle qui deviendra sa femme. Gertrude cherchait quelqu'un pour bâtir une clôture. Rosaire offrit son aide et apprit à connaître la jeune fille de Raymond Gariépy et



Rosaire, Gertrude et petits enfants: Angèle, Roland et Jean.

de Christianna Lorrain de Falher. Comme son père était décédé en 1942 c'est elle qui s'occupait des travaux de la ferme. Voilà pourquoi elle cherchait de l'aide pour construire la clôture. Les fréquentations ne furent pas trop longues; le mariage a eu lieu le trois novembre 1943. Rosaire prend le terrain qui avait appartenu à l'oncle Raphaël Lachapelle, SE 5-75-22-W5.

Rosaire et Gertrude sont très actifs dans la vie paroissiale, ils suivent l'exemple des parents de Rosaire. Ils se trouvent privilégiés de recevoir à table le prêtre et les religieuses qui viennent enseigner du catéchisme.

En 1977 ils vendent leurs terres à leurs voisins M. Henri Dumont, Léo Parenteau et Marcel Boily, et viennent s'établir à Falher.

Gertrude s'adonne à la peinture et à l'artisanat. La santé venant à manquer ils vendent de nouveau leur propriété et deviennent résidents de la Villa Beauséjour à Falher.

Rosaire Nairon: n.25-04-1921 m.03-11-1943

Gertrude Gariépy: n.30-03-1922

1. *Raymond: n.09-10-1951 m.07-06-1971*

Lucie Bouchard: n.15-08-1958

a) Angèle: n.11-06-1979

b) Jean: n.29-05-1981

c) Roland: n.29-05-1981

* * *

Rosaire, born in the province of Québec, is the eldest son of Médéric. He came to Whitemud with his parents in 1933. As there were no schools in the area, he and his brothers and sisters boarded at St. Augustin's Mission in Peace River.

As a young man, Rosaire worked at various minimum-wage jobs, but every little bit counted to help the family.

In 1943 he met the woman who would become his wife. Gertrude Gariepy needed someone to build a fence and Rosaire offered to help. The courtship was not a long one for they were married by November 1943. Having new responsibilities, Rosaire bought his uncle's land (S.E. 5-75-22-W5).

Both Rosaire and Gertrude were very active in the parish. They considered it an honor to offer hospitality to the priests and nuns who came to Whitemud to teach catechism.

In 1977 they sold their land and moved into the town of Falher. After a few years of owning their home, ill health forced them to move into the Villa Beauséjour.

NORDBLOOM, WILLIAM

by Lucille Côté

The history of Whitemud Creek would not be complete without mentioning our "good samaritan", Bill Nordbloom. He originated from the Dakotas, U.S.A. He migrated to Oyen, in Southern Alberta, around 1912 and lived there until he came North to the Whitemud Creek area in 1934. He settled on N-E- 9-75-22-5 and N-E-16-75-22-5. While still a young man, he and his brother purchased a well drilling machine and devoted his time solving everybody's water problems.

Here in Whitemud, he used his skills and continued drilling wells for most families. Bill used a team of horses to operate the machine but the tedious job of dumping the bucket was done by hand. The dirt had to be carted away in a special type of wheelbarrow. A man was ready for a sleep after a day of carting this heavy mud. He charged a dollar a foot when he struck water but wouldn't collect anything for a dry hole or if he thought a person couldn't afford it.

He didn't have a family of his own but spent



Bill Cote & Bill Nordbloom: Watering cattle beside a well Bill Nordbloom drilled.

most of his money helping people in need. Mom and Dad admitted often that we would have gone hungry many times had it not been for Bill's generosity.

This man had a rare sense of humour. He'd walk over every day and always had a joke or a funny story to tell. He enjoyed teasing children and really got a bang out of my sister, Carmen, nick-naming him "Jawbone". This name stuck all the years we were growing up. Even in his later years his concern for others never faltered. Those who knew him well realized he deprived himself of the bare necessities of life in order to help out.

He stayed close to the younger generation and by them he was bestowed with the pet name "Billy Coon".

Bill lived on his farm as long as he could but finally had to move to the nursing home in High Prairie where he died in 1969.

If charity brings you to heaven, I'm certain Bill has a beautiful place.

PARENTEAU, ALBANY & TETRAULT, ANGELINA

by Irene Parenteau Côté

Albany Parenteau, my father, was born in St. Pierre, Manitoba on August 16, 1898. My mother, Angelina, was also born in St. Pierre on May 10, 1900. They were married there in 1919. They raised five girls and five boys. Albany worked as a carpenter in Saskatchewan. They moved to Falher in 1948 and then to Whitemud in 1953 on the land previously owned by the Hanson couple. Bernard and Leo also farmed there for a while.

CHILDREN:

1. Juliette: n.29-07-1920

2. Michel: n.08-07-1921

3. Gertrude: n.20-11-1923

4. Leonie: n.28-11-1926
5. Lucien: n.17-05-1927
6. Helene: n.01-05-1931
7. Bernard: n.27-01-1933
8. Leo: n.03-12-1936
9. Irene: n.17-01-1938
10. Ronald: n.1939 d.1946

PARENTEAU, MICHEL & MYRDAL, EVELYN

by Irene Parenteau

Michel was born in Manitoba and moved to Alberta at 16 years of age. He married Evelyn Myrdal. When they moved to Whitemud in 1950, they had four children: Juliette, Donald, Denise and Patsy. Garry, the youngest was born in Whitemud. Michel sold his land to his brother-in-law, Ray Coté and moved to Peace River in 1957 where he still lives. His wife Evelyn died in Edmonton in the early seventies.

READE, DONALD & COTE, THERESA

by Theresa Coté Reade

I, Theresa, daughter of William Coté and Leah Besse, was almost ten years old when my folks arrived in Falher in July, 1934. We found a very french town. It was pretty rough on the youngest members of the family who couldn't speak French and had a last name like Coté.

Coming from the bald prairies to solid bush was very difficult for Mother. She was sure we'd never find our way back.

Bert, Aggie and I started school in September and when the folks moved across the river to the Whitemud Creek area in the spring, Blanche our sister stayed behind with us in Falher until the end of the school term. Then, in June, with wagon and horses we got as far as the river to find it was too high to ford. Joe Vincelette lived on the river flats and had a boat, so with many trips, we and our belongings were transferred to the other side where my brother met us with another team of horses. I remember how terrified I was, my first boat ride! There were logs coming down, the water was dirty and muddy, and being loaded so heavily it was about two inches from coming over the side of the boat; in fact every once in a while some did. It was very nice to get my feet on solid ground again since I couldn't swim.

While all the building was going on and the homestead was not yet fenced, my chief job was herding the cattle. With a book for company it wouldn't have been half as bad, but the mosquitoes were so thick! The poor cattle would eat for a while then run through the bush to rub them off. Every night we built a smudge for the stock.



R.1 Pat, Gail. G.2 Carol, Theresa, Barbara.

It rained so much those first years making a perfect hatching ground for mosquitoes.

We were out of school for a year while the community got together and built a log school, making all the desks as well. We walked to school, three and a half miles with Bert breaking the trail as there was so much snow. It was terribly cold, -50 to -60 degrees Farenheit. In the spring there was so much water in the sloughs you couldn't walk through them. We couldn't ride as the horses were needed to farm so Dad built a little log shack by the school and we children lived there for a few terms, going home only on weekends. Later, it was used as a teacherage.

I was the last one going to school so I walked most of the time as riding meant I had to get up earlier to feed the horse, then go out at noon (there was a barn at school) to do the same. My feet froze when I rode so walking was easier but I'm sure I froze my nose every day. In the fall the dugout went dry so I'd come from school, grab a bite and round up fifty head of cattle and drive them to the creek two miles away. It was dark (pitch black) coming back and the coyotes would be howling (sort of spooky) but with the help of a good dog, Trixie, we never left any horses or cows behind. Later Amos had a well dug on his place one half mile away. It made the chore much easier.

Every fall the boys would go down south to harvest and make a few dollars. At home, Aggie and I did the stooking and helped Dad with the chores. Tony ended up working down there year

round. Bert went to University to become a teacher. Amos came home to put up the firewood and go in the bush camps to help put Bert through school.

Aggie and I became quite adept at sawing wood with the old swede saw. We had quite a few heads of cattle by then so we got a lot of practice pitching hay, hauling five-gallon pails of chop and milking.



R.1 Jennifer, Shenna Cote. R.2 Gail with Briana, Tricia Dekort (Pat's baby), Barbara, Theresa, Patsy, Carol. R.3 Bert Dekort, Lori Klatt, Troy Bradley, Trevor Dekort, Brian Klatt, Kent Bradley, Philippe Thibault, Barry Klatt, Marcel Laflamme.

I thought the cattle drives were exciting. The farthest settler would start out with his cattle and was joined along the way by others. We had a good sized herd by the time we got to the river, which was the camping ground the first night. The chuckwagon, containing the food, was in the lead as the herd trailed better following something. While crossing the island, Marie Reade's horse fell trying to get over a big wind-fall. The horse's legs slid under the log and Marie's leg was under the horse. The stock was forgotten and everyone came to the rescue. By lifting the horse a bit and pulling on Marie, her leg was freed, bruised but not broken. With ropes around the log and tied to the saddle horns and man power, the log was rolled off the horse's legs. Marie was fine and so the journey continued to Falher and the freight cars.

We were not much different than the young people now. We'd walk half a day to catch a horse to ride four miles to visit a friend; now they have trikes or wheels.

Donald and I were married in 1944 on his embarkation leave. I worked in Edmonton and Calgary until he returned in 1946. After taking the train back home and filing on S½ of 8-75-22-W5, we stayed at my father's and at

Reade's while our house was being built. Don built a barn and Grandpa Reade gave us a cow. With a VLA grant, we broke seventy acres and bought a tractor; we were in business!

Donald broke an additional twenty-five acres the next year and about the same the year after, but his health was failing. Our house burned in the spring of 1952 and we lost everything. But thanks to friends, relatives and much hard work on their part as well as donations, another house was built and furnished. Yes, God was good to us. He gave us a bigger and better house. By this time we had three daughters and another one on the way.

Donald was diagnosed as having multiple sclerosis in 1952 and I took him to Edmonton to the University Hospital in 1953 where he passed away in 1956. He was buried in the Falher Cemetery.

My Dad (Bill Coté) passed away in 1954 and mother moved in with me, which made it much easier for me to get out and do chores; not so pleasant for her though with four little ones.

We eventually got the power and telephone which kept us from being so isolated. It was a bright spot in our lives in more ways than one.

Barbara remembers: "The year was 1956. My sister Carol was in grade one and I was in grade four when we began attending school in Guy. We stayed at the convent all week and went home on the weekends. It was then that in looking back I realize how isolated we were in Whitemud Creek. I recall very often hearing phrases like: "going to town if the roads are passable, if the river's not high."

On one such occasion when we couldn't cross the river due to spring break up, Rosaire Nairon drove us to the Guy convent. In order to get through the mud holes one had to take a run at them, then slide and bounce through. Upon arriving there we found the home canned jars of meat and vegetables broken. Our provisions for the week were gone. There was no need to worry. The other families simply shared their food with us.

Sitting at our dining table in the convent were Carol and I, Willy and Annette Sawchyn and the Briands: Roger, Raymond, Thérèse, Angèle and Alphonse. There developed a certain bonding as older children helped the younger ones from cooking to opening jars for them."

We moved to Calgary in 1970 where I still reside. Mother passed away in 1973 at the age of 89. The years have been good to us. The children and grandchildren enjoy good health.

Donald Reade: m.1944 d.1956

Theresa Coté

CHILDREN:

1. Barbara m. Richard Klatt.
Three children: Laura, Barry and Jason.
2. Carol m. Maurice (Buzz) Bradley.
Three children: Troy, Kent and Sheena.
3. Gail m. Bert Dekort.
Three children: Trevor, Tricia and Jennifer.
4. Pat m. Phillippe Thibault.
Two children: Brianna and Brett.

READE, GEORGE & CLOAK, ALICE

by Naida

George and Alice (Cloak) were born and married in Ireland. He came to Southern Alberta to homestead and set up a home for Alice, who joined him later, after the birth of Marie in Ireland. They lived there and had four more children before moving to Falher in 1934 and to the Whitemud Creek area a year later. Valerie was born there in 1936.



George and Alice Reade.

George and his family arrived in Falher in 1934. They were one of many families involved in a government program that displaced farmers and their families from the dry belt of Southern Alberta to the Whitemud area, where they were given land.



R.1 Naida, Brian. R.2 Marie, Mom, Corky.



People waiting for the mail to come in at George Reade's.

These families brought with them everything they possibly could; dismantled homes, furniture, cattle, horses, machinery, even pets.

George filed on SE- $\frac{1}{4}$ -75-23-W5. There he built a log home which became the first Post Office in the Whitemud Creek area. George being a veteran of the first World War had first chance at being postmaster, a job he had previously held on the prairies. Housing the Post Office in their home was a happy social thing for the Reades unit. They got to see and visit with all the neighbors every week. George loved to sit and visit. He and his brother Dick used to spread the "Blarney" for hours.

A heart attack took George in 1950. Alice stayed on the farm for awhile, but being very ill herself, was taken to Edmonton for an operation. She then lived with her family until her death in 1952.

Corky and his family lived on the home farm for some time, then it was eventually sold to Johnny Dumont, who now owns it.

The remaining "Reade" children are now spread around the country. Marie in Kamloops, B.C., Naida in Edmonton and Brian in High Prairie.

George and Alice had six children.

George Reade; d.1950

Alice Cloak; d.1952

CHILDREN:

1. Marie; n.1923 m.1943

Bob Geddis. They had one son, Patrick; n.1944

2. Clive; n.1925 d.1973

3. Ormand(Corky); n.1929 m.1951 d.1984

Lucy Lacourse. They had four children; Richard, Valerie, Rene and Douglas.

4. Naida; n.1932 m.1949

Gerard Chalifoux.

a) Roger; n.1950 m. d.1981

Michelle Dusseault. They have two children, Sean and Timothy.

b) Michel; n.1952 m. 1971

Maryanne Sliger. they have four children: Karen, Wayne, Jennifer and Pamela.

c) Vivian; n.1953 m. 1975

Henry Thibault. They have two children: Christopher and Lisa.

d) Norman; n. 1960 m. 1983

Hélène Therrien. They have one child: Lori.

5. Brian; n.1934 m.1957

Beth. They had two children; Gary and Darcy.

6. Valerie; n.1936 d.1938.

Valerie died of scarlet fever because it was impossible in those days to get medical help.



Alma, son Norman & Dick Reade.



Dick & Alma in front of tractor that hauled the mail.

READE, RICHARD (DICK) & SALEM, ALMA

by Therese Reade

Richard (Dick) Reade was born in Wexford County in Ireland. Alma Salem was born in Moorehead, Minnesota, U.S.A. They were married in 1918.

They came from Kinmundy, Alberta, and moved to Falher in 1934, the same time as the Côtés did. They spent some time at Joe Gagnon's place where the boys went to Jason School. Donald stayed with Jock Ford to finish the term when the folks moved across the river. They lived on Ernest Marier's place until they got their house and barn built on their own place.

Dick took over the Post Office from his brother George in 1950. He had it until 1960 when it was transferred to Falher. He hauled the mail with horses, then with a Fordson Tractor. He would stop and drop the mail to people along the way and sometimes groceries too. There was always a treat for the little ones and time for a

little chat. He became very crippled with arthritis soon after coming to the country but remained cheerful always. He was a great guy. He passed away in 1962.

Richard Reade; n. m.1918 d.1962

Alma Salem;

CHILDREN:

1. Donald; m.1944 d.1956

Theresa Cote. (See Donald Reade Story)

2. Norman;

Bertha; They had two children; Deanne and Carl

3. Ivan;

Yvonne; They had two children; Shannon and Tracy

REID, ARNOLD & GASS, BARBARA

by Eileen Forseille

Arnold Reid was born in Saskatchewan, in 1917. He moved west to Hythe with his dad John Reid, when he was a young boy. Arnold married Barbara Veronica Gass in Hythe, Alberta in the year 1937.

Arnold and Barbara took up their homestead in the Whitemud area in the year 1956. Barbara and her oldest son Bob cleared most of the land in the years 1956–1957. Arnold and Eileen stayed in Beaverlodge to keep up the family business and look after the smaller children. Barbara told us the old tractor had steel wheels and each time those wheels turned you would feel it right up your backbone. When the family first moved to the homestead they lived in two skid shacks pulled together. There were five children in the family and they found their living conditions a lot different from their modern home in town. Barbara took to this life like a trooper and made the best of those hardships. She used to say that hard work never hurt anyone and proved this by working alongside Arnold and raising her family. Barbara raised chickens and cattle. Arnold worked as a cat skinner for most of his farming years. He worked in the oil patch up north so he was gone a lot of the time. Barbara spoke highly of her neighbors and said they made her hardships worthwhile. The roads to town were not as we see them today. The Whitemud road was the one the farmers used to cross the river at Vinceleette's and on to Falher. This trip took all day in good weather and usually meant staying overnight at a neighbor's house in bad weather. The grocery list was not forgotten at home because trips to town were not made every week. Don, the youngest son remembers one time when mom didn't go to town. A vehicle was left on the other side of the river, Arnold and some of the kids took the tractor down to the Little Smoky Bridge site and crossed the river on the steel girders that stretched from bank to bank. They made their trip to town and brought the groceries by hand over the steel girders. He remembers balancing on the beam way above the raging river and his dad yelled, "Don't drop those eggs!"

Another instance that Arnold remembers is the time that he took the tractor and wagon down to the river by the Little Smoky Bridge site. There was a fresh spring from where he hauled water for their home. One day while pulling the wagon loaded with 2 barrels of water and Debbie and Gwen in the wagon, the hitch broke. The wagon rolled back down the steep incline. Arnold's quick thinking prompted him to jump

off the tractor and grab the tongue of the wagon veering towards the ditch. After checking out the girls, he looked to see what path the tractor had taken. He found it digging a deep ditch as it was trying to climb a bank.

Arnold and Barbara retired to Sorrento, British Columbia. Unfortunately, we lost Barbara in the spring of 1982. The farm was sold twice and is now owned by Leo Christensen.

CHILDREN:

1. Eileen n. 24–07–1939
(See Forseille, Lawrence)
2. Robert n. 23–07–1942
Irene Pouliot They had three children: Gary, Darrell and Tracy. They live in Valleyview.
3. Ronald n. 15–07–1944
He lives in Kamloops, B.C.
4. Donald Reid n. 09–03–1949
(See Reid, Donald)
5. Debra n. 09–07–1953 m. ??–??–1974
d Greengrove. They have one son, Dean. They live in Sorrento, B.C.
6. Gwendolyn n. 04–08–1956 m. ??–??–1976
Roger Pouliot. They have three daughters: Tanya, Pamella, and Christina. They live in Wembley, A.B.

REID, DONALD & SPROWL, LINDA

by Linda Sprowl Reid

Donald, youngest son of Arnold and Barbara Gass was born on March 9, 1949 in Beaverlodge. Don grew up in Beaverlodge until his family moved to the Whitemud area in 1958. He continued his schooling in Guy and then Valleyview where he graduated in 1967.

Don then went to work up in the north. He drove his own truck hauling and moving rigs. At this time he met Linda Sprowl and they were married in 1972 in Peace River. Today they reside on the farm in Whitemud E½–16–74–21–W5. They have five children who attend school in Valleyview. Don is still trucking and is on the road a lot. The hardships of being alone on the farm are not as they were in Barbara's day. We have modern living conditions and good highways that do not restrict the number of times one goes to town.

We have the pleasure of still having with us grandfather and greatgrandfather John Reid, who moved back to Whitemud in 1985 from Seaforth, Ontario. He is looked after by his only daughter Averil Reid. John Reid is now 98 years old and is still enjoying life.

Donald Reid: n.09–03–1949 m.1972

Linda Sprowl

CHILDREN:

Stacie, Charity, Jamie, Gerri and Donald.

Donald est né à Beaverlodge où il grandit jusqu'à ce que la famille déménage dans la région de Whitemud en 1958. Il continua l'école à Guy et ensuite à Valleyview d'où il gradua en 1967.

Il alla travailler au Nord, conduisant son propre camion et déménageant à Peace River en 1972. Aujourd'hui, lui et son épouse demeurent sur une ferme à Whitemud. Ils ont cinq enfants qui fréquentent l'école de Valleyview. Don fait toujours du camionnage et voyage beaucoup.

**REID, JOHN & MANAKER, MYRTLE (1m)
ADAMS, ROSE BROOME (2m)**

by Eileen Reid Forseille

John Reid was born in 1888 in Ontario. He moved to the Whitemud-Guy area in 1947 from Hythe. At the age of 58, this was his fourth homestead; having homesteaded in Ontario, in Saskatchewan, in Hythe, Alberta and in Whitemud, Alberta. After transferring the now established farm to his daughter Averil in 1960 he again turned to homesteading in the Villemarie district. In 1964, he rented his farm to his son Wilfred and moved to Seaforth, Ontario, where he married an old school friend. In 1978, he and Averil sold their land to Les Christensen and Dale Krebbs. In 1985, at the age of 96, with his wife gone, he again moved back to the Guy area where he now lives in the yard of his eldest granddaughter, Eileen Forseille. John can remember the first flight of the Wright Brothers, the first car, and with still a sharp mind he can tell many a tale of the old days and their hardships.

CHILDREN:

1. Wilfred: n.18-05-1915 m.30-09-1939
Pauline Perdue: d.11-04-1986
(See Reid, Wilfred)
2. Arnold: n.28-06-1917 m.1937
Barbara Gass: d.01-07-1982
(See Reid, Arnold)
3. Johnny: n.08-09-1924 m.1954
Jeannine Thibodeau
a) Betty Jean: n.09-04-1956
b) Shirley: n.11-03-1957
c) David: n.04-04-1958
d) Patricia: n.19-02-1961
4. Averil: n.11-08-1926
- 2.m. Rose Broome Adams.

**REID, WILFRED & PERDUE, ALICE
PAULINE**

by Frances Lee (Reid) Deynaka

I, Frances Lee Reid Deynaka, was born the second daughter to Wilfred and Alice Pauline (Perdue) Reid on the 20th day of June, 1942.

My father was born May 18, 1915 in Kinistino, Saskatchewan, to John Reid and Myrtle Manaker. Mother was born June 15, 1921, in Sac City, Iowa, U.S.A. to Beauford Perdue and Ruby Berry.

Dad moved from Kinistino, Saskatchewan to Hythe, Alberta to farm with his father who had a farm at Hythe as well as the one in Kinistino. Mother, at the age of 14 years, moved from California, U.S.A. with her parents and sisters. They eventually made their home in the Valhalla area.

Mother was 18 years old and Dad was 25 when they were married in Grande Prairie, Alberta on the 30th of September 1939. Eventually they also built a home there. The second World War broke out, Dad enlisted. Mom, my sister, Lorane and I remained in Grande Prairie. Sister Lorane would be 2 years and I was 3 months when he left.



R.1 Mary Nadon. R.2 Pauline Reid & Beatrice Desfosses.

After the war Dad returned to Grande Prairie and was employed at the Frontier Lumber Co. He thought there was more of a future for him in farming. Since good land was available in the Whitemud Creek area and as a large fire had been through and had burned all the forest, Dad thought it could easily be brought into production. All that remained to be done was to pile up all the burned dead-fall and of course plow the land and pick the roots.

My uncle, Arnold Reid, was also a returned war veteran so he also came out to look at the

land as did my other uncle, Johnny and my grandfather. Grandfather chose a homestead for his daughter, Averil. Dad chose the E½ 17-74-22-W5. The land grandfather chose for Averil was immediately to the west.

Our neighbor directly to the east was the George Nadon family. Quite a selection of bachelors made up the rest of our neighbors. They consisted of the Arndts, Sig, Red and Nip, the Dupuis brothers, Pat, Ves and Ed made up some more of the people around us. Mr. and Mrs. Desfosses also had a farm close by. Most of these neighbors did not stay during the winters.

My first memories on arriving at Whitemud begin in April of 1947. My family left Hythe in the early morning with Dad, Mom, sister Lorane, uncle Johnny and myself. Lorane would have been 6 years old and I four. Dad had just bought himself a nice new green Ford truck with a green box in which we had all our necessities.

The road took us through Rycroft, Watino to Falher then south to the little Smoky River, across the river southwest to the Whitemud Creek store which was run by Mr. and Mrs. Nairon. To reach our land one continued on south some six miles by trail across a very deep wide creek. Of course it had no bridge. Every spring Dad made a new bridge as the previous one washed out by the high spring waters. We arrived at our new home before dark to a granary! There was still snow on the ground.

The hard work for Dad began by piling up the dead-fall and burned timber. On the land out there, a tree over three feet tall could not be found due to the fire that had gone through some years before. Sloughs provided our water supply, wigglers and all. Before a dugout was made, drinking water was hauled in barrels from the creek three miles away. A nice cold drink of water was out of the question. An ice house was next on the agenda; what a treat to be able to have ice in the summer and best of all homemade ice cream. Pat Dupuis' daughter, Bulah would tell her parents: "Let's go to Reid's for ice cream."

Dad and Uncle Johnny ran a John Deere D tractor, day and night breaking the land. Then came the job of picking roots. If my memory serves me right the summers seemed to be so hot and dry with hoards of mosquitoes. Once Dad plowed all night then went to Falher for some barrels of gas. Town was 35 to 40 miles away but with no roads and the creek and river crossing, it could be an all day trip.

Many times if we had to go to town it was necessary to put the tractor ahead of the vehicle to pull it through the mud holes or snow drifts.



Pauline and Wilfred Reid with children Lorane on left and Frances on right. Christmas holidays in 1950.

Mom and we girls did all the things back then that all farm families did such as milk cows, churn butter, bake bread, pick wild berries, can fruit and wild meat, carry in wood and water. Mom scrubbed the floor with lye in the scrub water to make the bare board floor white; she was very particular.

Lorane and I began our education at Whitemud by correspondence courses at home. The nearest school was about seven miles away; it was the Smithreade. Dad learned that a convent had just been completed at Guy, Alberta, and thought a better education could be had for his little girls so he arranged for us to stay there. However, the convent proved to be a very lonely place for us. We were considered somewhat of an oddity being neither french nor catholic. Lorane and I were there for four and a half years from 1949-1953.

The "River", being the Little Smoky, played a large role in all the lives of the people who lived "Across the River". By the people on the north side we were referred to as "the people who lived on the other side of the river", but to the people across the river we, our family, were also the people across the creek. Talk about dead end.

While on a shopping trip to Falher if a rain cloud appeared in the direction of the river we knew we had better hurry home otherwise we

just might not make it up the river hills. If, you happened to arrive and found it had rained you had the option of sleeping in your vehicle till morning, trying to push it up with help or wait to be rescued.

To have workable brakes seemed to be a luxury. As a vehicle drove onto the ferry the ferryman was ready with a block of wood to chuck under the wheels, just in case. A cable was tied across the ferry for good measure too. The ferry usually took two vehicles per trip, no more. After the cable was tied the faithful ferryman put the ferry in gear and we chugged across. It was always a pleasant ride.

If that didn't prove enough of a thrill you could wait till spring and have a ride in the basket. The basket was a boxlike, half-cage affair which ran on a cable to the opposite side of the river, on either side were two tall towers which supported the cable. Horrors!

My sister, Lorane, my father, Uncle Johnny and I, without choice had to use it to take my sister and me back to the convent after a visit home.

The climb up that tower could not have been worse for me if it had been Mount Everest. If dad said, "Go", you went! I dreaded heights. Then after climbing up the tower we stepped onto the wobbly basket and looked down at the icefloes below, then at the sag in the cable. You knew you were in for some ride!

Before Christmas one year when dad had to haul some grain to Falher, the ice on the river appeared to be thick enough to carry the weight of a loaded grain truck but halfway across, the ice gave way and the truck broke through. My grandfather was with dad and as the water began to flow in under the doors he just said, "Whoops, whoops" then climbed up onto the seat.

The truck had to remain frozen in the ice for about a week or so before a cat tractor could be found to winch it from the top of the river bank. There were very few "cats" in our area at that time.

I'm sure a book could be written on the trials and tribulations of the people who lived "across the river" then a chapter or two added on those of us who had one more creek to cross.

After Lorane and I left the convent, for which I was not very sorry, we took correspondence courses at home for one year, attended school in High Prairie, back home to Whitemud for correspondence courses again, to school in Beaverlodge for me, Hythe for Lorane, back to Guy for high school. Then I could catch the bus the first year by driving four miles to Fortier's place, the

bus stop. The following year the bus came to our gate.

A new highway was built joining Donnelly to Valleyview, subsequently a new road was also built through Whitemud adjoining the highway, right past our farm. It was beyond our dreams! By that time we also had electricity in our home. The pioneering days were over.

After High School in 1962 I went to business college in Grande Prairie and took a secretarial course. I worked in a bank in Grande Prairie then came to High Prairie to work for the Department of Agriculture which I enjoyed.

It was here that I met a tall, handsome eligible farmer whom I married, of course! My husband, Stan, and I have farmed in Gilwood now for most of our married years except for the two years we farmed at Whitemud. Stan had worked at saw-mills in the winter since he was 15 years old then in 1983 thought it was time to operate his own mill.

During our marriage Stan and I were blessed with three children.

Wilfrid Reid: n. 18-05-1915 m. 30-09-1939

Pauline Purdue: n. 15-06-1921 d:

CHILDREN:

1) Lorane: n. 10-07-1940 m. 05-11-1959

John Dumont: (see John Dumont)

2) Frances: n. 20-06-1942 m.

Stan Deynaka:

a) Connie: n. 16-08-1963 m. 09-10-1982
Perry Burst:

b) Paul: n. 30-03-1966

Paul is presently ticket welder and is presently in mill construction.

c) Alan: n. 22-12-1969

Allan is still in High School.

SCHEFFELMEIR, RALPH & HANDY MARGUERITE (PEGGY)

by Sam Lapensé

Ralph was born December 13, 1933 in Carstairs, Alberta. In 1962 he came north and filed on W¹/₂-31-75-22-W5 and opened some land. In 1978 he married Peggy Handy. He sold his land to David Morin in 1981 but kept 20 acres for his home site and his North West Salvage operation.

SPRIETER, LEONARD & MRS. SPRIETER

by Dolores Doris

Mr. and Mrs. Sprieter moved in with son Danavon in the spring of 1934. He purchased NW¹/₄-7-75-23-5 and later filed on SW¹/₄-6-75-23-5- and moved there.

Mrs. Sprieter passed away in Peace River, AB in 1950.



Don Sprieter, Herbert Doris, Leonard Sprieter and Albert Doris Sr. Fall 1950.

Mr. Sprieter passed away in 1963 in Burnaby, B.C.

Danavon married Violet Keyes of High Prairie. They had one son, Melvin and one daughter, Joyce. They were later divorced.

From a second marriage Danavon had another daughter.

STARRS, CLAIR & LAROQUE, ROSE

by Clair Starrs

Rose and I moved from southern Alberta in 1949 as Rose's Dad wanted us to move to take homesteads. We moved the "Cat" and all our machinery. The first winter we stayed with Rose's Dad, Jos Laroque, who lived in the big square log house, which used to be Louis Dechambre's, situated on the flat south of the river. That winter Mr. Delphis Langlois and I cut logs for our log house. On our homestead our main fare was moose meat provided by Jos Laroque, the best hunter I ever ran across. After we got the house mostly built, but no gable ends or door in yet, we moved from the flat up to our land in 1951. The mosquitos were so bad we had to put sheets over our bed at night; they'd chase the moose out of the creek right by our shack, the horses even rolled with the harness on. I opened a few acres for ourselves as well as Delphis Langlois that summer and helped build his house. Rose had a lovely garden, considering it was raw land. We had no road and had to use the horse and wagon in mud and water to the horse's belly.



Rose and Clair Starrs in front of their new home.

We also had to cross the Smoky River in the basket in the spring and the fall. Later we had pretty good ferry service, Art St. Pierre was our ferryman.

It was nothing to see timber wolves close to the buildings and lots of deer; we could see them



Jos Laroque, Rose, Clair Starrs, Delphis Langlois & little Rolly.

out east of the house in the alfalfa field grazing away. One was a big albino, a real cream color. Rose used to shoot prairie chickens by opening the vent in the window most every morning as our yard was their stamping ground. She even shot a bob cat which was after the chickens by the house. When we first moved to the country, we got our mail at the Ballater Store run by Joe Morin, then after that, our address was Guy, where Jos Dancause was postmaster. If I had medicine in the mail from Edmonton, Jos would bring it right to the flat; sometimes he'd come in any hour of the night; sure a grand person. Of course we also did business at the Nairon store in Whitemud. High Prairie was our hospital other than Peace River, both about the same distance from our homestead. We sure enjoyed it even though it was tough and my health was failing. We had wonderful neighbors.

We still miss the north. Every time we go to Peace River, it's just like being back home. We farmed 22 years in the Peace River Country; but now live in Stettler, Alberta.

WARMAN, DARYLL

by Dolores Doris

Daryll arrived in the Whitemud area in 1934 with his parents and sister Marge. The family located on W¹/₂-32-74- 23-W5. Daryll never married. He passed away in 1953 and is buried in the Whitemud Creek Cemetery. His sister Marge

married Tony Bussiere and resided on SE-¹/₄-3-74-23-5. They moved out of the region about 1939.

WIESEL, LAWRENCE & ARNDT, EDNA

by Dolores Doris

Lawrence Wiesel settled on SE ¹/₄-4-75-23-W5 in 1929. He married Edna Arndt and had one son, Doug. The couple divorced and Wiesel never remarried. He did some active service in WWII. When he passed away he was buried in the Veteran's Cemetery in McLennan.



H. Doris, E. Dubois, Lawrence Wiesel.

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